Docket No:

WE THE PATRIOTS USA, INC; CT FREEDOM ALLIANCE, LLC;

CONSTANTINA LORA, Individually and:

as ppa for CHILD #1; MIRIAM

HIDALGO, Individually and as ppa for CHILD #2 and CHILD #3; ASMA ELIDRISSI, Individually and as ppa

for CHILD #4 and CHILD #5;

: J.D. OF HARTFORD Plaintiffs, : AT HARTFORD

SUPERIOR COURT

٧.

CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF EARLY
CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT;
CONNECTICUT STATE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION;
CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT
OF PUBLIC HEALTH; BETHEL BOARD:
OF EDUCATION; GLASTONBURY
BOARD OF EDUCATION;
STAMFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION;
CHARLENE M. RUSSELL-TUCKER;
DR. MANISHA JUTHANI

Defendants. : February 8, 2022

COMPLAINT

"The constitutional freedom of religion is the most inalienable and sacred of all human rights." – Thomas Jefferson

1. This is an action that seeks to forestall and redress the harm caused to countless parents and their children by Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, which the Connecticut General Assembly amended in April 2021 to require parents to choose between educating their children or their religious beliefs. It states claims for declaratory and injunctive relief under Article First, §§ 3 and 20 of the Connecticut Constitution, Article

Eighth of the Connecticut Constitution, Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-15c, and Conn. Gen. Stat. § 46a-64.

PARTIES

- 2. The Plaintiff, We The Patriots USA, Inc., is a nonprofit public charity organized and operated exclusively for tax-exempt purposes in accordance with Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. More specifically, it is dedicated to promoting constitutional rights and other freedoms through education, outreach, and public interest litigation, thereby advancing religious freedom, medical freedom, parental rights, and educational freedom for all. As a Section 501(c)(3) public charity, it has members who participate in its tax-exempt activities as volunteers and committed community stakeholders bringing and supporting litigation in federal and state courts on a variety of constitutional and other freedom-related matters directly affecting their rights and interests. A significant number of its members are Connecticut parents affected by the matters complained of herein. It counts the individual plaintiffs among its members.
- 3. The Plaintiff, CT Freedom Alliance, LLC, is a public interest organization dedicated to advocating for religious freedom, medical freedom, parental rights, and educational freedom among others. It has engaged in lobbying in opposition to the law at issue in this suit on behalf of its members, and it brings and supports litigation in various courts on a variety of matters. Most of its members are parents affected by the legislation complained of herein. It counts the individual plaintiffs among its members.
- 4. The Plaintiff, Constantina Lora, is an adult citizen of the state of Connecticut, and she is a member of We The Patriots USA, Inc. She sues on behalf of

herself and her minor child, CHILD # 1 – a Bethel preschooler who will be eligible for kindergarten in August 2022.

- 5. The Plaintiff, Miriam Hidalgo, is an adult citizen of the state of Connecticut. She sues on behalf of her two minor children CHILD # 2 and CHILD # 3, both of whom are eligible for daycare, one of whom is eligible for preschool and one of whom will be eligible for preschool, and both of whom will be eligible for kindergarten in the near future.
- 6. The Plaintiff, Asma Elidrissi, is an adult resident of the state of Connecticut. She sues on behalf of her two minor children CHILD # 4 and CHILD # 5, who are eligible for daycare and preschool and one of whom had registered for kindergarten in the fall of 2021 in Stamford, Connecticut and could not attend because of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a's requirements.
- 7. The Defendant, Connecticut Office of Early Childhood Development (OEC), is a branch of Connecticut's state government and is the primary regulatory authority for early childhood development programs including preschool and daycare.
- 8. The Defendant, Connecticut Department of Public Health, is a branch of Connecticut's state government and is charged with primary enforcement of public health laws in Connecticut.
- 9. The Defendant, Connecticut State Department of Education, is a branch of Connecticut's state government and is the primary regulatory authority for public education in Connecticut.
- 10. Defendant Bethel Board of Education is the governing body and local education agency for the Bethel Public Schools and all educational institutions in Bethel, Connecticut.

- 11. Defendant Glastonbury Board of Education is the governing body and local education agency for the Glastonbury Public Schools and all educational institutions in Glastonbury, Connecticut.
- 12. Defendant Stamford Board of Education is the governing body and local education agency for the Stamford Public Schools and all educational institutions in Stamford, Connecticut.
- 13. Defendant Charlene M. Russell-Tucker is the Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Education and is sued in her official capacity only.
- 14. Defendant Dr. Manisha Juthani is the Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Public Health and is sued in her official capacity only.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

Context

- 15. Article Eighth, § 1 of the Connecticut Constitution guarantees free public education to all Connecticut citizens.
- 16. During the waning hours of April 27, 2021, the Connecticut General Assembly passed a heavily amended bill labelled HB-6423 "An Act Concerning Immunizations" and immediately sent the act to Governor Ned Lamont to sign into law. Governor Lamont signed the act into law on April 28, 2021. It took effect immediately and amended Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a.
- 17. The original HB-6423, see **Exhibit A**, was replaced entirely by House Amendment Schedule A. See **Exhibit B**. House Amendment Schedule G added a final section to the bill. See **Exhibit C**. The full Connecticut legislature voted to pass the bill as modified by Schedule A and Schedule G. They constitute the entirety of the law.

- 18. The act's amendments to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a require parents of children enrolled in preschool programs or any other prekindergarten program public or private to vaccinate their children on or before September 1, 2022 or not later than fourteen days after transferring to another program and to submit proof of that vaccination to their school even if vaccinating their children is contrary to their religious beliefs. **Exhibit B, p. 4, Section 1(c).** They do not require parents of children already enrolled in kindergarten through grade 12 to vaccinate their children if vaccinating their children is contrary to their religious beliefs.
- 19. The amendments, however, do not disturb the medical exemption to the vaccination requirement upon the provision of a medical professional's note. **Exhibit B, p. 2, Section 1(a)**.
- 20. Enforcement of the the act falls to local school boards such as the defendant school boards named here.
- 21. Finally, vaccination data available in April 2021 from the Connecticut Department of Public Health showed that kindergarten students have an average vaccination rate of 96.2% for their measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccines. See Exhibit D School Immunization Survey Data, pp. 2-3.1

A Product Derived From Aborted Fetuses With Potential For Devastating Consequences

22. A vaccine consists of a virus (or a component of a virus), a liquid buffer, contaminants from the cell line used to manufacture it, commercial stabilizer, and other additives.

¹ https://portal.ct.gov/DPH/Immunizations/School-Survey

- 23. It is physically impossible to remove all cell line contaminants from a vaccine dosage.
- 24. Pharmaceutical companies use cell lines artificially developed over decades from aborted fetuses to research, develop, test, and produce their vaccines.
- 25. As of February 2020, the United States Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) lists ten manufactured and commonly administered vaccines that contain human fetal cells (designated by the acronyms MRC-5 and WI-38). **Exhibit E Vaccine Excipient Summary**.²
- 26. The presence of very small amounts of human fetal cells and DNA in the human blood can create a very strong autoimmune reaction in a person by which his body turns against itself and starts killing its own cells and tissues.

Plaintiff Constantina Lora & CHILD # 1

- 27. Constantina Lora is a Connecticut resident with one child, Child # 1, who attends pre-school in Bethel, Connecticut. Child # 1 is subject to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a's amended vaccination mandate.
- 28. Lora and her husband are devout Greek Orthodox believers who decline vaccination on two religious grounds.
- 29. First, they personally believe that to use or benefit from the use of aborted fetal cells or cells artifically derived from them is morally wrong and would constitute participation in what they feel was an act of intentional, premeditated murder of another

² https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pinkbook/downloads/appendices/b/excipient-table-2.pdf

human being. They also personally believe that injecting themselves with cells from other animals and chemicals – which are present in all vaccines – is morally wrong.

- 30. Second, they personally hold a general religious belief that harming a child is morally wrong, and they believe that vaccinating their children would harm them, thus rendering it wrong.
- 31. This is not the Lora and her husband's first encounter with intolerance for their religious beliefs regarding vaccinations. They used to live in New York and, in or about February 2021, they moved to Connecticut permanently because New York repealed its religious exemption to the school vaccination requirements. Lora's husband now commutes three hours to work every day because New York failed to respect the family's religious beliefs, and they have refused to abandon their beliefs.
- 32. Lora and her husband have one child who is enrolled in pre-school with a current religious exemption. They have two older children in middle school and high school who will be allowed to keep their religious exemptions. Their youngest child, CHILD # 1, will enroll in kindergarten in the fall of 2022 and will not be allowed to keep their religious exemption.

Plaintiff Miriam Hidalgo, CHILD # 2, & CHILD # 3

33. Plaintiff Miriam Hidalgo and her husband have two small children, CHILD # 2 and CHILD # 3 who are eligible for daycare and became eligible for preschool in the fall of 2021 in Glastonbury, Connecticut. Their children are subject to the vaccination requirement, and Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a will not permit to claim a religious exemption.

- 34. Miriam and her husband are devout Catholics who decline vaccinations on two grounds.
- 35. First, they personally believe that to use or benefit from the use of aborted fetal cells is morally wrong and would constitute participation in what they feel was an act of intentional, premeditated murder of another human being.
- 36. Second, they also have reached an agreement to raise their children as vegans a decision grounded in Miriam's personal religious beliefs. Thus, they believe that injecting their children with cells from other animals is morally wrong.
- 37. Miriam and her husband operate three small businesses. While Miriam has dedicated herself to being a stay-at-home mother, she still needs to attend to responsibilities pertaining to those businesses. Homeschooling her children places an overwhelming burden upon her. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204, as amended, prevents CHILD # 2 and CHILD # 3 from attending public or private schools in Connecticut unless they violate their religious beliefs.

Plaintiff Asma Elidrissi, CHILD # 4, & CHILD # 5

- 38. Plaintiff Asma Elidrissi and her husband are immigrants to the United States and have two small children CHILD # 4 and CHILD # 5. CHILD # 4 is eligible for kindergarten and one who is eligible for preschool. CHILD # 4 and CHILD # 5 will be subject to the vaccination requirement and will not be allowed to claim a religious exemption.
- 39. Asma and her husband are devout Muslims who decline vaccinations on three religious grounds:

- 40. First, they personally believe that to use or benefit from the use of aborted fetal cells is morally wrong and would constitute participation in what they feel was an act of intentional, premeditated murder of another human being.
- 41. Second, they abstain from pork on religious grounds. Porcine gelatine a derivative of pork is used as a stabilizer in certain vaccines, including ones that the Defendants will require. To inject themselves with these vaccines would violate the well-established Muslim prohibition on consuming pork.
- 42. Third, before Asma fully informed herself of vaccine ingredients, she followed a doctor's assurance that vaccines posed no harm to her children and that they did not contain products barred by her religion. Thus, her son received the measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccination. That vaccination caused him to suffer serious symptoms and ultimately a speech and learning disorder for which he now receives special services. Asma and her husband hold a sincere religious belief that harming children is morally wrong. Vaccines have harmed their children, and they object to harming their children as being morally wrong.
- 43. Finally, Asma and her husband are not wealthy, and Asma needs to return to work to supplement their income so they can afford to provide their children with a full upbringing in accordance with the American dream that they have come to the United States to pursue. If their children cannot attend any school or day care public or private, Asma will be unable to return to work. They also own a small business and have put down deep roots in Connecticut. Moving to another state to freely exercise their religion is not a viable option for them.

Count One – Violation of Article First, § 3 of the Connecticut Constitution: Right To Free Exercise Of Religion

- 44. Paragraphs 1 through 43 are incorporated herein.
- 45. Article First, § 3 of the Connecticut Constitution provides, in relevant part, "The exercise and enjoyment of religious profession and worship, without discrimination, shall forever be free to all persons in the state; provided, that the right hereby declared and established, shall not be so construed as to excuse acts of licentiousness, or to justify practices inconsistent with the peace and safety of the state."
- 46. Article Eighth of Connecticut's Constitution guarantees all Connecticut children a right to a free and adequate public education.
- 47. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, prohibits any child whose parents decline to vaccinate them on religious grounds from attending pre-school or kindergarten through grade 12 in both public and private schools, daycares, and pre-schools, except for the children who are already enrolled in kindergarten through grade 12 and have already claimed a religious exemption.
- 48. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, however, does allow parents to decline to vaccinate their children if a medical professional grants their children a medical exemption from vaccination.
- 49. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, denies a generally available benefit education to children if their parents do not waive their religious identity while affording the same benefit to parents and children who assert a medical exemption.
- 50. Thus, Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, violates Article First, § 3 of the Connecticut Constitution on its face.

- 51. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, also prevents parents from seeking alternative education options for their children by applying the same mandate to private schools, daycares, and pre-schools.
- 52. In other words, Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, forces parents to either renounce their religious beliefs and vaccinate their children or homeschool their children something that many parents cannot do thus depriving them of any education opportunities.
- 53. Thus, Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, seeks to compel an activity that goes against the Plaintiffs' religious beliefs by depriving their children of a fundamental state constitutional right. Therefore, it violates Article First, § 3 of the Connecticut Constitution.

Count Two – Violation of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 52-571b

- 54. Paragraphs 1 through 53 are incorporated herein.
- 55. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 52-571 prevents the Defendants from burdening the Plaintiffs' free exercise of their religion unless the Defendants can show that the burden furthers a compelling governmental interest and is the least restrictive means of furthering that compelling governmental interest.
- 56. Article Eighth of Connecticut's Constitution guarantees all Connecticut children a right to a free and adequate public education.
- 57. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, prohibits any child whose parents decline to vaccinate them on religious grounds from attending pre-school or kindergarten through grade 12 in both public and private schools, daycares, and pre-schools, except

for the children who are already enrolled in kindergarten through grade 12 and have already claimed a religious exemption.

- 58. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, however, does allow parents to decline to vaccinate their children if a medical professional grants their children a medical exemption from vaccination.
- 59. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, denies a generally available benefit education to children if their parents do not waive their religious identity while affording the same benefit to parents and children who assert a medical exemption.
- 60. The provision of a secular exemption (a medical exemption) contradicts any claim of a compelling interest that the Defendants might fashion. Simply put, the Defendants do not have a compelling interest. Thus, the Defendants' enforcement of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, violates Conn. Gen. Stat. § 52-571b.
- 61. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, also prevents parents from seeking alternative education options for their children by applying the same mandate to private schools, daycares, and pre-schools.
- 62. In other words, Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, forces parents to either renounce their religious beliefs and vaccinate their children or homeschool their children something that many parents cannot do thus depriving them of any education opportunities.
- 63. Even assuming that the Defendants have a compelling interest, there are far less restrictive means to further the interest, which they have ignored completely. For instance, testing and quarantines for the infected have stood as highly effective measures of disease control for decades.

64. Thus, the Defendants' enforcement of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, is not the least restrictive means to further the Defendants' interest, and it violates Conn. Gen. Stat. § 52-571b.

Count Three – Violation of The Right To Bodily Self-Determination Under Article First, § 8 of the Connecticut Constitution And The Common Law

- 65. Paragraphs 1 through 64 of this Complaint are incorporated herein.
- 66. In *Stamford Hosp. v. Vega*, 236 Conn. 646 (1996), the Connecticut Supreme Court recognized a common law right of bodily self-determination: "The right to refuse medical treatment is a right rooted in this nation's fundamental legal tradition of self-determination.... That common law right, and its roots in our legal tradition, have a long and impressive pedigree. More than one century ago, the United States Supreme Court recognized that "[n]o right is held more sacred, or is more carefully guarded, by the common law, than the right of every individual to the possession and control of his own person, free from all restraint or interference of others, unless by clear and unquestioned authority of law."
- 67. This common law right's long history and fundamental standing in Connecticut's legal system qualifies it as a fundamental unenumerated right under Article First, § 8 of the Connecticut Constitution.
- 68. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, deprives the Plaintiffs of their right to bodily self-determination by conditioning the state constitutional right to a free and adequate education on adhering to the state's mandates for personal medical decisions.
- 69. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, deprives the Plaintiffs of their rights to privacy and medical freedom by leaving the Plaintiffs no viable alternatives to educate their children without submitting to the Defendants' interference with her medical

decisions. The Plaintiffs do not have the capabilities to adequately homeschool their children. They cannot send their children to private schools, daycares, or pre-schools because Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, places the same mandates on private institutions as it does on public ones.

70. Thus, Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, violates Article First, § 8 of the Connecticut Constitution and the well-established common law right to bodily self-determination.

Count Four – Violation of The Equal Protection Principles Of Article First, § 1 of the Connecticut Constitution.

- 71. Paragraphs 1 through 70 of this Complaint are incorporated herein.
- 72. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, prohibits any child whose parents decline to vaccinate them on religious grounds from attending pre-school or kindergarten through grade 12 in both public and private schools, daycares, and pre-schools, except for the children who are already enrolled in kindergarten through grade 12 and have already claimed a religious exemption.
- 73. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, however, does allow parents to decline to vaccinate their children if a medical professional grants their children a medical exemption from vaccination.
- 74. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, denies a generally available benefit education to children if their parents do not waive their religious identity while affording the same benefit to parents and children who assert a medical exemption.
- 75. Thus, Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, renders the Plaintiffs less equal in rights to their peers, violating Article I, § 1 of the Connecticut Constitution.

Count Five – Violation of Article I, § 8 of the Connecticut Constitution's Right To Child Rearing

- 76. Paragraphs 1 through 75 of this Complaint are incorporated herein.
- 77. Article I, § 8 of the Connecticut Constitution guarantees a fundamental right for parents to rear their children in the manner that they see fit, and it minimizes state intrusion.
- 78. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a's, as amended, imposition of a vaccination requirement that prohibits the Plaintiffs from educating their children in any forum public or private completely interferes with their right to decide what is best for their children's health and to raise them according to their religious beliefs.
- 79. Thus, Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, violates the Article I, § 8 of the Connecticut Constitution.

Count Six – Violation of Article Eighth of the Connecticut Constitution

- 80. Paragraphs 1 through 79 of this Complaint are incorporated herein.
- 81. Article Eighth of the Connecticut Constitution protects the Plaintiffs right to a free and adequate public education and requires the Defendants to take affirmative steps to implement and maintain that right. See Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1, 21 (1996).
- 82. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, goes a diabolical step farther. It not only completely forecloses a free public education to the Plaintiffs, but it also bars them from securing a private education at their own expense.
- 83. The Defendants have taken no steps to provide the Plaintiffs and anyone similarly situated with any options to obtain an education.
- 84. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, violates Article Eighth of the Connecticut Constitution.

Count Seven - Violation of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-15c

- 85. Paragraphs 1 through 84 of this Complaint are incorporated herein.
- 86. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-15c prohibits discrimination on the basis of religion in public schools.
- 87. Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, discriminates against the Plaintiffs on the basis of religion by barring them from receiving religious accommodations, which, in turn, bars them from enjoying the benefits of public schools.
- 88. Thus, Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, violates Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-15c.

Declaratory and Injunctive Relief

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiffs seeks declaratory injunctive relief as follows:

- A. A declaratory judgment finding that Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, violates Article I, § 3 of the Connecticut Constitution and is unconstitutional.
- B. A declaratory judgment finding that Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, violates Conn. Gen. Stat. § 52-571b and is unconstitutional.
- C. A declaratory judgment finding that Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, violates the Plaintiffs' rights to bodily self-determination under Article I, § 8 of the Connecticut constitution and the common law and is unconstitutional and unlawful.
- D. A declaratory judgment finding that Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, violates the Article First, § 1 of the Connecticut constitution and is unconstitutional.

- E. A declaratory judgment finding that Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, violates Article I, § 8 of the Connecticut Constitution's right to child rearing and is unconstitutional.
- F. A declaratory judgment finding that Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, violates Article Eighth of the Connecticut Constitution and is unconstitutional.
- G. A declaratory judgment finding that the Defendants' actions in enforcing Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended, constitute unlawful discrimination in violation of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-15c.
- H. A permanent injunction enjoining the Defendants and their agents from enforcing any provision of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-204a, as amended.
- I. Reasonable costs and attorney's fees.
- J. Such other relief as this Court deems fair and equitable.

THE PLAINTIFFS

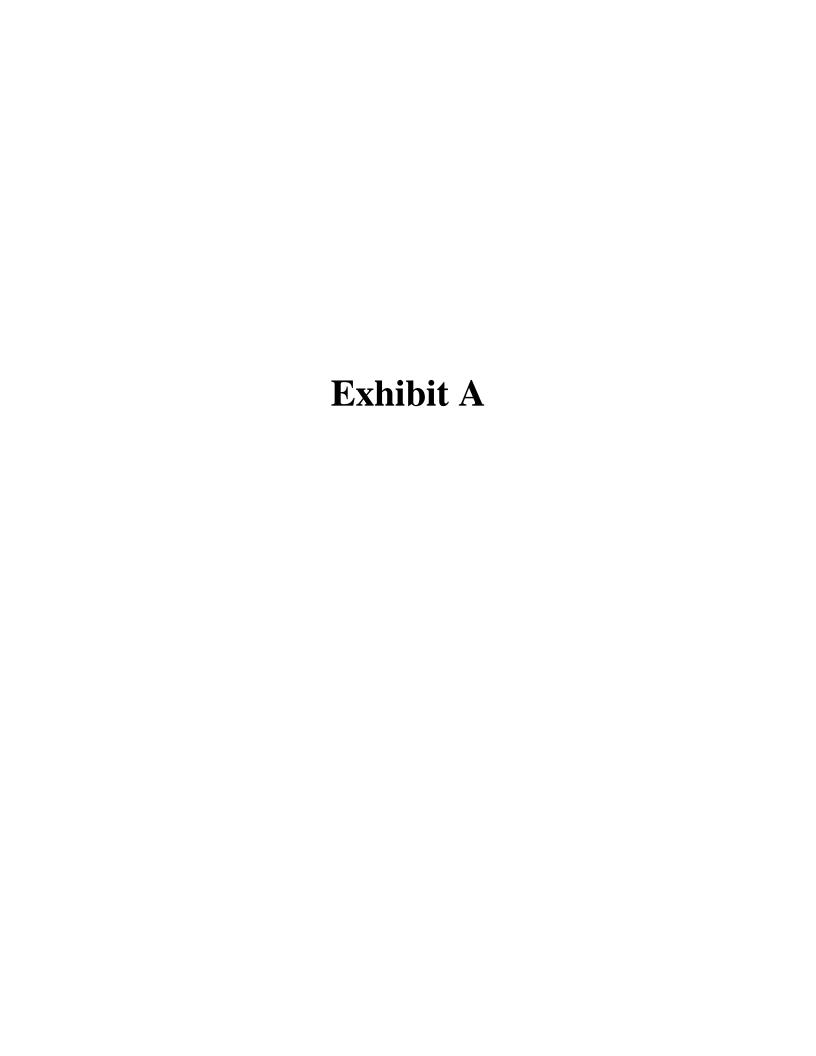
/s/ Norman A. Pattis /s/ /s/ Cameron L. Atkinson /s/ NORMAN A. PATTIS, ESQ. CAMERON L. ATKINSON, ESQ. PATTIS & SMITH, LLC 383 Orange Street New Haven, CT 06511

Tel: (203) 393-3017 Fax: (203) 393-9745

npattis@pattisandsmith.com catkinson@pattisandsmith.com

For The CT FREEDOM ALLIANCE, LLC Only In Addition To Pattis & Smith Appearance

/s/ Brian D. Festa /s/
BRIAN D. FESTA, ESQ.
General Counsel
CT Freedom Alliance, LLC
123 Farmington Ave., Ste. 175
Tel: (860) 261-5605
brian@ctfreedomalliance.com
Bristol, CT 06010





House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 431

January Session, 2021

Substitute House Bill No. 6423

House of Representatives, April 14, 2021

The Committee on Public Health reported through REP. STEINBERG of the 136th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING IMMUNIZATIONS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- Section 1. Section 10-204a of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 3 (a) Each local or regional board of education, or similar body 4 governing a nonpublic school or schools, shall require each child to be 5 protected by adequate immunization against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles, mumps, rubella, [hemophilus] 6 7 haemophilus influenzae type B and any other vaccine required by the 8 schedule for active immunization adopted pursuant to section 19a-7f before being permitted to enroll in any program operated by a public or 10 nonpublic school under its jurisdiction. Before being permitted to enter 11 seventh grade, a child shall receive a second immunization against 12 measles. Any such child who (1) presents a certificate from a physician, 13 physician assistant, advanced practice registered nurse or local health 14 agency stating that initial immunizations have been given to such child 15 and additional immunizations are in process (A) under guidelines and

schedules specified by the Commissioner of Public Health, or (B) in the case of a child enrolled in sixth grade or below who, prior to the effective date of this section, was exempt from the appropriate provisions of this section upon presentation of a statement that such immunizations would be contrary to the religious beliefs of such child or the parents or guardian of such child, as such additional immunizations are recommended, in a written declaration, in a form prescribed by the Commissioner of Public Health, for such child by a physician, a physician assistant or an advanced practice registered nurse; or (2) presents a certificate, in a form prescribed by the commissioner pursuant to section 7 of this act, from a physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse stating that in the opinion of such physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse such immunization is medically contraindicated because of the physical condition of such child; [or (3) presents a statement from the parents or guardian of such child that such immunization would be contrary to the religious beliefs of such child or the parents or guardian of such child, which statement shall be acknowledged, in accordance with the provisions of sections 1-32, 1-34 and 1-35, by (A) a judge of a court of record or a family support magistrate, (B) a clerk or deputy clerk of a court having a seal, (C) a town clerk, (D) a notary public, (E) a justice of the peace, (F) an attorney admitted to the bar of this state, or (G) notwithstanding any provision of chapter 6, a school nurse;] or [(4)] (3) in the case of measles, mumps or rubella, presents a certificate from a physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse or from the director of health in such child's present or previous town of residence, stating that the child has had a confirmed case of such disease; or [(5)] (4) in the case of [hemophilus] haemophilus influenzae type B has passed [his] <u>such child's</u> fifth birthday; or [(6)] (5) in the case of pertussis, has passed [his] such child's sixth birthday, shall be exempt from the appropriate provisions of this section. [If the parents or guardians of any child are unable to pay for such immunizations, the expense of such immunizations shall, on the recommendations of such board of education, be paid by the town. Before being permitted to enter seventh grade, the parents or guardian of any child who is exempt on

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35 36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

religious grounds from the immunization requirements of this section, pursuant to subdivision (3) of this subsection, shall present to such school a statement that such immunization requirements are contrary to the religious beliefs of such child or the parents or guardian of such child, which statement shall be acknowledged, in accordance with the provisions of sections 1-32, 1-34 and 1-35, by (A) a judge of a court of record or a family support magistrate, (B) a clerk or deputy clerk of a court having a seal, (C) a town clerk, (D) a notary public, (E) a justice of the peace, (F) an attorney admitted to the bar of this state, or (G) notwithstanding any provision of chapter 6, a school nurse.] The statement described in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be acknowledged, in accordance with the provisions of sections 1-32, 1-34 and 1-35, by a judge of a court of record or a family support magistrate, a clerk or deputy clerk of a court having a seal, a town clerk, a notary public, a justice of the peace, an attorney admitted to the bar of this state, or notwithstanding any provision of chapter 6, a school nurse.

(b) The immunization requirements provided for in subsection (a) of this section shall not apply to any child who is enrolled in seventh grade through twelfth grade on or before the effective date of this section if such child presented a statement, prior to the effective date of this section, from the parents or guardian of such child that such immunization is contrary to the religious beliefs of such child or the parents or guardian of such child, and such statement was acknowledged, in accordance with the provisions of sections 1-32, 1-34 and 1-35, by (1) a judge of a court of record or a family support magistrate, (2) a clerk or deputy clerk of a court having a seal, (3) a town clerk, (4) a notary public, (5) a justice of the peace, (6) an attorney admitted to the bar of this state, or (7) notwithstanding any provision of chapter 6, a school nurse.

(c) Any child who is enrolled in sixth grade or below prior to the effective date of this section who presented a statement, prior to the effective date of this section, from the parents or guardian of such child that the immunization is contrary to the religious beliefs of such child

or the parents or guardian of such child, which statement was acknowledged, in accordance with the provisions of sections 1-32, 1-34 and 1-35, by (1) a judge of a court of record or a family support magistrate, (2) a clerk or deputy clerk of a court having a seal, (3) a town clerk, (4) a notary public, (5) a justice of the peace, (6) an attorney admitted to the bar of this state, or (7) notwithstanding any provision of chapter 6, a school nurse, but did not present a written declaration from a physician, a physician assistant or an advanced practice registered nurse stating that additional immunizations are in process as recommended by such physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse, rather than as recommended under guidelines and schedules specified by the Commissioner of Public Health, shall comply with the immunization requirements provided for in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section on or before September 1, 2022, or not later than fourteen days after transferring to a program operated by a public or nonpublic school under the jurisdiction of a local or regional board of education or similar body governing a nonpublic school or schools, whichever is later.

(d) If the parents or guardian of any child are unable to pay for any immunization required by subsection (a) of this section, the expense of such immunization shall, on the recommendation of such child's local or regional board of education, or similar body governing a nonpublic school or schools, be paid by the town.

[(b)] (e) The definitions of adequate immunization shall reflect the schedule for active immunization adopted pursuant to section 19a-7f and be established by regulation adopted in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 by the Commissioner of Public Health, who shall also be responsible for providing procedures under which [said] such boards and [said] such similar governing bodies shall collect and report immunization data on each child to the Department of Public Health for (1) compilation and analysis by [said] the department, and (2) release by the department of annual immunization rates for each public and nonpublic school in the state, provided such immunization data may not contain information that identifies a specific individual.

85

86

87

88

89 90

91 92

93

94

95

96 97

98 99

100

101

102

103

104

105106

107

108

109110

111

112

113

114

115116

[(c)] (f) The Commissioner of Public Health may issue a temporary waiver to the schedule for active immunization for any vaccine if the National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recognizes a nation-wide shortage of supply for such vaccine.

- Sec. 2. Section 19a-25 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 125 (a) All information, records of interviews, written reports, statements, 126 notes, memoranda or other data, including personal data as defined in 127 subdivision (9) of section 4-190, procured by: [the] (1) The Department 128 of Public Health, by staff committees of facilities accredited by the 129 Department of Public Health or the maternity mortality review 130 committee, established pursuant to section 19a-59i, in connection with 131 studies of morbidity and mortality conducted by the Department of 132 Public Health, such staff committees or the maternal mortality review 133 committee, or carried on by said department, such staff committees or 134 the maternal mortality review committee jointly with other persons, 135 agencies or organizations, [or procured by] (2) the directors of health of towns, cities or boroughs or the Department of Public Health pursuant 136 137 to section 19a-215, or [procured by] (3) such other persons, agencies or 138 organizations, for the purpose of reducing the morbidity or mortality 139 from any cause or condition, shall be confidential and shall be used 140 solely for the purposes of medical or scientific research and, for 141 information obtained pursuant to section 19a-215, disease prevention 142 and control by the local director of health and the Department of Public 143 Health. Such information, records, reports, statements, notes, 144 memoranda or other data shall not be admissible as evidence in any 145 action of any kind in any court or before any other tribunal, board, 146 agency or person, nor shall it be exhibited or its contents disclosed in 147 any way, in whole or in part, by any officer or representative of the 148 Department of Public Health or of any such facility, by any person 149 participating in such a research project or by any other person, except 150 as may be necessary for the purpose of furthering the research project to 151 which it relates.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 55, the Department of Public Health may exchange personal data for the purpose of medical or scientific research, with any other governmental agency or private research organization; provided such state, governmental agency or private research organization shall not further disclose such personal data. The Commissioner of Public Health shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, consistent with the purposes of this section to establish the procedures to ensure the confidentiality of such disclosures. The furnishing of such information to the Department of Public Health or its authorized representative, or to any other agency cooperating in such a research project, shall not subject any person, hospital, [sanitarium] behavioral health facility, rest home, nursing home or other person or agency furnishing such information to any action for damages or other relief because of such disclosure. [This section shall not be deemed to affect disclosure.]

- (c) The provisions of this section shall not affect: (1) Disclosure of regular hospital and medical records made in the course of the regular notation of the care and treatment of any patient, but only records or notations by [such] the staff committees described in subsection (a) of this section pursuant to their work, or (2) release by the Department of Public Health of annual immunization rates for each public and nonpublic school in the state pursuant to section 10-204a, as amended by this act.
- Sec. 3. Section 10a-155 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- (a) Each institution of higher education shall require each full-time or matriculating student born after December 31, 1956, to provide proof of adequate immunization against measles, rubella, [and on and after August 1, 2010, to provide proof of adequate immunization against] mumps and varicella as recommended by the national Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices before permitting such student to enroll in such institution. [Any such]
- (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,

any student who (1) presents a certificate, in a form prescribed by the Commissioner of Public Health pursuant to section 7 of this act, from a physician, a physician assistant or an advanced practice registered nurse stating that in the opinion of such physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse such immunization is medically contraindicated, (2) [provides] prior to the effective date of this section, provided a statement that such immunization [would be] is contrary to his or her religious beliefs, (3) presents a certificate from a physician, a physician assistant, an advanced practice registered nurse or the director of health in the student's present or previous town of residence, stating that the student has had a confirmed case of such disease, (4) is enrolled exclusively in a program for which students do not congregate on campus for classes or to participate in institutional-sponsored events, such as students enrolled in distance learning programs for individualized home study or programs conducted entirely through electronic media in a setting without other students present, or (5) graduated from a public or nonpublic high school in this state in 1999 or later and was not exempt from the measles, rubella and [on and after August 1, 2010, the mumps vaccination requirement pursuant to subdivision (2) [or (3)] of subsection (a) of section 10-204a, as amended by this act, shall be exempt from the appropriate provisions of this section.

[(b)] (c) Each institution of higher education shall keep uniform records of the immunizations and immunization status of each student, based on the certificate of immunization or other evidence acceptable pursuant to subsection [(a)] (b) of this section. The record shall be part of the student's permanent record. By November first of each year, the chief administrative officer of each institution of higher education shall cause to be submitted to the Commissioner of Public Health, on a form provided by the commissioner, a summary report of the immunization status of all students enrolling in such institution.

Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 10a-155b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

185

186

187

188189

190

191192

193

194

195

196

197

198

199

200

201

202

203

204

205

206

207

208

209

210

211

212

213

214

215

216

217

(a) For students who first enroll in the 2014-2015 school year, and first enroll in each school year thereafter, each public or private college or university in this state shall require that each student who resides in oncampus housing be vaccinated against meningitis and submit evidence of having received a meningococcal conjugate vaccine not more than five years before enrollment as a condition of such residence. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to any such student who (1) presents a certificate, in a form prescribed by the Commissioner of Public Health pursuant to section 7 of this act, from a physician, an advanced practice registered nurse or a physician assistant stating that, in the opinion of such physician, advanced practice registered nurse or physician assistant, such vaccination is medically contraindicated because of the physical condition of such student, or (2) [presents] <u>prior</u> to the effective date of this section, presented a statement that such vaccination [would be] is contrary to the religious beliefs of such student.

- Sec. 5. Section 19a-79 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- (a) The Commissioner of Early Childhood shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to carry out the purposes of sections 19a-77 to 19a-80, inclusive, and 19a-82 to 19a-87, inclusive, and to assure that child care centers and group child care homes meet the health, educational and social needs of children utilizing such child care centers and group child care homes. Such regulations shall (1) specify that before being permitted to attend any child care center or group child care home, each child shall be protected as age-appropriate by adequate immunization against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles, mumps, rubella, [hemophilus] haemophilus influenzae type B and any other vaccine required by the schedule of active immunization adopted pursuant to section 19a-7f, [including appropriate exemptions for children for whom such immunization is medically contraindicated and for children whose parent or guardian objects to such immunization on religious grounds, and that any objection by a parent or a guardian to immunization of a child on

219

220

221

222

223

224

225

226

227

228

229

230

231

232

233

234

235

236

237

238

239

240

241

242

243

244

245

246247

248

249

250

251

religious grounds shall be accompanied by a statement from such parent or guardian that such immunization would be contrary to the religious beliefs of such child or the parent or guardian of such child, which statement shall be acknowledged, in accordance with the provisions of sections 1-32, 1-34 and 1-35, by (A) a judge of a court of record or a family support magistrate, (B) a clerk or deputy clerk of a court having a seal, (C) a town clerk, (D) a notary public, (E) a justice of the peace, or (F) an attorney admitted to the bar of this state, (2) specify conditions under which child care center directors and teachers and group child care home providers may administer tests to monitor glucose levels in a child with diagnosed diabetes mellitus, and administer medicinal preparations, including controlled drugs specified in the regulations by the commissioner, to a child receiving child care services at such child care center or group child care home pursuant to the written order of a physician licensed to practice medicine or a dentist licensed to practice dental medicine in this or another state, or an advanced practice registered nurse licensed to prescribe in accordance with section 20-94a, or a physician assistant licensed to prescribe in accordance with section 20-12d, and the written authorization of a parent or guardian of such child, (3) specify that an operator of a child care center or group child care home, licensed before January 1, 1986, or an operator who receives a license after January 1, 1986, for a facility licensed prior to January 1, 1986, shall provide a minimum of thirty square feet per child of total indoor usable space, free of furniture except that needed for the children's purposes, exclusive of toilet rooms, bathrooms, coatrooms, kitchens, halls, isolation room or other rooms used for purposes other than the activities of the children, (4) specify that a child care center or group child care home licensed after January 1, 1986, shall provide thirty-five square feet per child of total indoor usable space, (5) establish appropriate child care center staffing requirements for employees certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation by the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association, the National Safety Council, American Safety and Health Institute, Medic First Aid International, Inc. or an organization using guidelines for cardiopulmonary resuscitation and emergency cardiovascular care published by the American Heart

253

254

255

256

257

258

259

260

261

262

263

264

265

266

267

268

269

270

271

272

273

274

275

276

277

278

279

280

281

282

283

284

285

286

Association and International Liaison Committee on Resuscitation, (6) specify that [on and after January 1, 2003,] a child care center or group child care home (A) shall not deny services to a child on the basis of a child's known or suspected allergy or because a child has a prescription for an automatic prefilled cartridge injector or similar automatic injectable equipment used to treat an allergic reaction, or for injectable equipment used to administer glucagon, (B) shall, not later than three weeks after such child's enrollment in such a center or home, have staff trained in the use of such equipment on-site during all hours when such a child is on-site, (C) shall require such child's parent or guardian to provide the injector or injectable equipment and a copy of the prescription for such medication and injector or injectable equipment upon enrollment of such child, and (D) shall require a parent or guardian enrolling such a child to replace such medication and equipment prior to its expiration date, (7) specify that [on and after January 1, 2005, a child care center or group child care home (A) shall not deny services to a child on the basis of a child's diagnosis of asthma or because a child has a prescription for an inhalant medication to treat asthma, and (B) shall, not later than three weeks after such child's enrollment in such a center or home, have staff trained in the administration of such medication on-site during all hours when such a child is on-site, and (8) establish physical plant requirements for licensed child care centers and licensed group child care homes that exclusively serve school-age children. When establishing such requirements, the Office of Early Childhood shall give consideration to child care centers and group child care homes that are located in private or public school buildings. With respect to this subdivision only, the commissioner shall implement policies and procedures necessary to implement the physical plant requirements established pursuant to this subdivision while in the process of adopting such policies and procedures in regulation form. Until replaced by policies and procedures implemented pursuant to this subdivision, any physical plant requirement specified in the office's regulations that is generally applicable to child care centers and group child care homes shall continue to be applicable to such centers and homes that exclusively

288289

290

291

292

293

294

295

296

297

298

299

300

301

302

303

304

305

306

307

308

309

310311

312

313

314

315

316

317

318

319

320

321

serve school-age children. The commissioner shall [print] <u>post</u> notice of the intent to adopt regulations pursuant to this subdivision on the eRegulations System not later than twenty days after the date of implementation of such policies and procedures. Policies and procedures implemented pursuant to this subdivision shall be valid until the time final regulations are adopted.

323 324

325

326

327

328

329

330 331

332333

334

335

336

337338

339

340341

342

343344

345

346347

348349

350

351

352

353

354

355 356

357

(b) Any child who (1) presents a certificate, in a form prescribed by the Commissioner of Public Health pursuant to section 7 of this act, signed by a physician, a physician assistant or an advanced practice registered nurse stating that, in the opinion of such physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse, the immunizations required pursuant to regulations adopted pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section are medically contraindicated, (2) in the case of a child who is enrolled in seventh grade through twelfth grade, presented a statement, prior to the effective date of this section, that such immunizations are contrary to the religious beliefs of such child or the parents or guardian of such child, or (3) in the case of a child who is enrolled in sixth grade or below, (A) presented a statement, prior to the effective date of this section, that such immunizations are contrary to the religious beliefs of such child or the parents or guardian of such child, and (B) presents a written declaration, in a form prescribed by the Commissioner of Public Health, from a physician, a physician assistant or an advanced practice registered nurse stating that an immunization against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles, mumps, rubella, haemophilus influenzae type B and any other vaccine required by the schedule of active immunization adopted pursuant to section 19a-7f has been given to such child and that any additional necessary immunizations of such student against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles, mumps, rubella, haemophilus influenzae type B and any other vaccine required by such schedule of active immunization are in process under guidelines specified by the Commissioner of Public Health or as recommended for the child by the physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse, shall be exempt from the immunization requirements set forth in such regulations. The statement described in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of this

subsection shall be acknowledged, in accordance with the provisions of sections 1-32, 1-34 and 1-35, by a judge of a court of record or a family support magistrate, a clerk or deputy clerk of a court having a seal, a town clerk, a notary public, a justice of the peace, or an attorney admitted to the bar of this state.

- (c) Any child who is enrolled in sixth grade or below on or before the effective date of this section who presented, prior to the effective date of this section, the statement described in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of this section, but did not present the written declaration described in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of this section, shall comply, on or before September 1, 2022, or not later than fourteen days after applying to enroll in the child care center or group child care home, whichever is later, with the immunization requirements set forth in the regulations adopted pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section.
- [(b)] (d) The commissioner may adopt regulations, pursuant to chapter 54, to establish civil penalties of not more than one hundred dollars per day for each day of violation and other disciplinary remedies that may be imposed, following a contested-case hearing, upon the holder of a license issued under section 19a-80 to operate a child care center or group child care home or upon the holder of a license issued under section 19a-87b, as amended by this act, to operate a family child care home.
- [(c)] (e) The commissioner shall exempt Montessori schools accredited by the American Montessori Society or the Association Montessori Internationale from any provision in regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section which sets requirements on group size or child to staff ratios or the provision of cots.
- [(d)] (f) Upon the declaration by the Governor of a civil preparedness emergency pursuant to section 28-9 or a public health emergency pursuant to section 19a-131a, the commissioner may waive the provisions of any regulation adopted pursuant to this section if the commissioner determines that such waiver would not endanger the life,

safety or health of any child. The commissioner shall prescribe the duration of such waiver, provided such waiver shall not extend beyond the duration of the declared emergency. The commissioner shall establish the criteria by which a waiver request shall be made and the conditions for which a waiver will be granted or denied. The provisions of section 19a-84 shall not apply to a denial of a waiver request under this subsection.

[(e)] (g) Any child care center or group child care home may provide child care services to homeless children and youths, as defined in 42 USC 11434a, as amended from time to time, for a period not to exceed ninety days without complying with any provision in regulations adopted pursuant to this section relating to immunization and physical examination requirements. Any child care center or group child care home that provides child care services to homeless children and youths at such center or home under this subsection shall maintain a record on file of all homeless children and youths who have attended such center or home for a period of two years after such homeless children or youths are no longer receiving child care services at such center or home.

[(f)] (h) Any child care center or group child care home may provide child care services to a foster child for a period not to exceed forty-five days without complying with any provision in regulations adopted pursuant to this section relating to immunization and physical examination requirements. Any child care center or group child care home that provides child care services to a foster child at such center or home under this subsection shall maintain a record on file of such foster child for a period of two years after such foster child is no longer receiving child care services at such center or home. For purposes of this subsection, "foster child" means a child who is in the care and custody of the Commissioner of Children and Families and placed in a foster home licensed pursuant to section 17a-114, foster home approved by a child-placing agency licensed pursuant to section 17a-149, facility licensed pursuant to section 17a-145 or with a relative or fictive kin caregiver pursuant to section 17a-114.

Sec. 6. Section 19a-87b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

424

425

426

427

428

429

430

431

432

433

434 435

436

437

438

439

440

441

442

443

444

445

446

447

448

449

450

451

452

453

454

455

456

457

(a) No person, group of persons, association, organization, corporation, institution or agency, public or private, shall maintain a family child care home, as defined in section 19a-77, without a license issued by the Commissioner of Early Childhood. Licensure forms shall be obtained from the Office of Early Childhood. Applications for licensure shall be made to the commissioner on forms provided by the office and shall contain the information required by regulations adopted under this section. The licensure and application forms shall contain a notice that false statements made therein are punishable in accordance with section 53a-157b. Applicants shall state, in writing, that they are in compliance with the regulations adopted by the commissioner pursuant to subsection (f) of this section. Before a family child care home license is granted, the office shall make an inquiry and investigation which shall include a visit and inspection of the premises for which the license is requested. Any inspection conducted by the office shall include an inspection for evident sources of lead poisoning. The office shall provide for a chemical analysis of any paint chips found on such premises. Neither the commissioner nor the commissioner's designee shall require an annual inspection for homes seeking license renewal or for licensed homes, except that the commissioner or the commissioner's designee shall make an unannounced visit, inspection or investigation of each licensed family child care home at least once every year. A licensed family child care home shall not be subject to any conditions on the operation of such home by local officials, other than those imposed by the office pursuant to this subsection, if the home complies with all local codes and ordinances applicable to single and multifamily dwellings.

(b) No person shall act as an assistant or substitute staff member to a person or entity maintaining a family child care home, as defined in section 19a-77, without an approval issued by the commissioner. Any person seeking to act as an assistant or substitute staff member in a family child care home shall submit an application for such approval to the office. Applications for approval shall: (1) Be made to the

commissioner on forms provided by the office, (2) contain the information required by regulations adopted under this section, and (3) be accompanied by a fee of fifteen dollars. The approval application forms shall contain a notice that false statements made in such form are punishable in accordance with section 53a-157b.

- (c) The commissioner, within available appropriations, shall require each initial applicant or prospective employee of a family child care home in a position requiring the provision of care to a child, including an assistant or substitute staff member and each household member who is sixteen years of age or older, to submit to comprehensive background checks, including state and national criminal history records checks. The criminal history records checks required pursuant to this subsection shall be conducted in accordance with section 29-17a. The commissioner shall also request a check of the state child abuse registry established pursuant to section 17a-101k. The commissioner shall notify each licensee of the provisions of this subsection. For purposes of this subsection, "household member" means any person, other than the person who is licensed to conduct, operate or maintain a family child care home, who resides in the family child care home, such as the licensee's spouse or children, tenants and any other occupant.
- (d) An application for initial licensure pursuant to this section shall be accompanied by a fee of forty dollars and such license shall be issued for a term of four years. An application for renewal of a license issued pursuant to this section shall be accompanied by a fee of forty dollars and a certification from the licensee that any child enrolled in the family child care home has received age-appropriate immunizations in accordance with regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (f) of this section. A license issued pursuant to this section shall be renewed for a term of four years. In the case of an applicant submitting an application for renewal of a license that has expired, and who has ceased operations of a family child care home due to such expired license, the commissioner may renew such expired license within thirty days of the date of such expiration upon receipt of an application for renewal that is accompanied by such fee and such certification.

(e) An application for initial staff approval or renewal of staff approval shall be accompanied by a fee of fifteen dollars. Such approvals shall be issued or renewed for a term of two years.

492

493

494

495

496

497

498

499

500

501

502

503

504505

506

507

508

509510

511

512

513

514

515

516

517

518

519

520

521

522

523

524

525

526

(f) The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to assure that family child care homes, as defined in section 19a-77, meet the health, educational and social needs of children utilizing such homes. Such regulations shall ensure that the family child care home is treated as a residence, and not an institutional facility. Such regulations shall specify that each child be protected as age-appropriate by adequate immunization against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles, mumps, rubella, [hemophilus] haemophilus influenzae type B and any other vaccine required by the schedule of active immunization adopted pursuant to section 19a-7f. [Such regulations shall provide appropriate exemptions for children for whom such immunization is medically contraindicated and for children whose parents or guardian objects to such immunization on religious grounds and require that any such objection be accompanied by a statement from such parents or guardian that such immunization would be contrary to the religious beliefs of such child or the parents or guardian of such child, which statement shall be acknowledged, in accordance with the provisions of sections 1-32, 1-34 and 1-35, by (1) a judge of a court of record or a family support magistrate, (2) a clerk or deputy clerk of a court having a seal, (3) a town clerk, (4) a notary public, (5) a justice of the peace, or (6) an attorney admitted to the bar of this state.] Such regulations shall also specify conditions under which family child care home providers may administer tests to monitor glucose levels in a child with diagnosed diabetes mellitus, and administer medicinal preparations, including controlled drugs specified in the regulations by the commissioner, to a child receiving child care services at a family child care home pursuant to a written order of a physician licensed to practice medicine in this or another state, an advanced practice registered nurse licensed to prescribe in accordance with section 20-94a or a physician assistant licensed to prescribe in accordance with section 20-12d, and the written authorization of a parent or guardian of such child. Such regulations

shall specify appropriate standards for extended care and intermittent short-term overnight care. The commissioner shall inform each licensee, by way of a plain language summary provided not later than sixty days after the regulation's effective date, of any new or changed regulations adopted under this subsection with which a licensee must comply.

(g) Any child who (1) presents a certificate, in a form prescribed by the Commissioner of Public Health pursuant to section 7 of this act, signed by a physician, a physician assistant or an advanced practice registered nurse stating that, in the opinion of such physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse, the immunizations required pursuant to regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (f) of this section are medically contraindicated, (2) in the case of a child who is enrolled in seventh grade through twelfth grade, presented a statement, prior to the effective date of this section, that such immunizations are contrary to the religious beliefs of such child or the parents or guardian of such child, or (3) in the case of a child who is enrolled in sixth grade or below, (A) presented a statement, prior to the effective date of this section, that such immunizations are contrary to the religious beliefs of such child or the parents or guardian of such child, and (B) presents a written declaration, in a form prescribed by the Commissioner of Public Health, from a physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse stating that an immunization against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles, mumps, rubella, haemophilus influenzae type B and any other vaccine required by the schedule of active immunization adopted pursuant to section 19a-7f has been given to such child and that any additional necessary immunizations of such student against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles, mumps, rubella, haemophilus influenzae type B and any other vaccine required by such schedule of active immunization are in process under guidelines specified by the Commissioner of Public Health or as recommended for the child by the physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse, shall be exempt from the immunization requirements set forth in such regulations. The statement described in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of this subsection shall be acknowledged, in accordance with the provisions of

527

528

529530

531

532

533

534

535

536537

538

539

540541

542543

544545

546

547548

549

550

551

552553

554

555

556

557

558

559 560

sections 1-32, 1-34 and 1-35, by (i) a judge of a court of record or a family support magistrate, (ii) a clerk or deputy clerk of a court having a seal, (iii) a town clerk, (iv) a notary public, (v) a justice of the peace, or (vi) an attorney admitted to the bar of this state.

(h) Any child who is enrolled in sixth grade or below on or before the effective date of this section who presented, prior to the effective date of this section, the statement described in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of subsection (g) of this section, but did not present the written declaration described in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (3) of subsection (g) of this section shall comply, on or before September 1, 2022, or not later than fourteen days after applying to enroll in the family child care home, whichever is later, with the immunization requirements set forth in the regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (f) of this section.

[(g)] (i) Upon the declaration by the Governor of a civil preparedness emergency pursuant to section 28-9 or a public health emergency pursuant to section 19a-131a, the commissioner may waive the provisions of any regulation adopted pursuant to this section if the commissioner determines that such waiver would not endanger the life, safety or health of any child. The commissioner shall prescribe the duration of such waiver, provided such waiver shall not extend beyond the duration of the declared emergency. The commissioner shall establish the criteria by which a waiver request shall be made and the conditions for which a waiver will be granted or denied. The provisions of section 19a-84 shall not apply to a denial of a waiver request under this subsection.

[(h)] (j) Any family child care home may provide child care services to homeless children and youths, as defined in 42 USC 11434a, as amended from time to time, for a period not to exceed ninety days without complying with any provision in regulations adopted pursuant to this section relating to immunization and physical examination requirements. Any family child care home that provides child care services to homeless children and youths at such home under this

subsection shall maintain a record on file of all homeless children and youths who have attended such home for a period of two years after such homeless children or youths are no longer receiving child care services at such home.

[(i)] (k) Any family child care home may provide child care services to a foster child for a period not to exceed forty-five days without complying with any provision in regulations adopted pursuant to this section relating to immunization and physical examination requirements. Any family child care home that provides child care services to a foster child at such home under this subsection shall maintain a record on file of such foster child for a period of two years after such foster child is no longer receiving child care services at such home. For purposes of this subsection, "foster child" means a child who is in the care and custody of the Commissioner of Children and Families and placed in a foster home licensed pursuant to section 17a-114, foster home approved by a child-placing agency licensed pursuant to section 17a-145 or with a relative or fictive kin caregiver pursuant to section 17a-114.

Sec. 7. (NEW) (Effective from passage) On or before October 1, 2021, the Commissioner of Public Health shall develop and make available on the Internet web site of the Department of Public Health a certificate for use by a physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse stating that, in the opinion of such physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse, a vaccination required by the general statutes is medically contraindicated for a person because of the physical condition of such person. The certificate shall include (1) definitions of the terms "contraindication" and "precaution", (2) a list of contraindications and precautions recognized by the National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for each of the statutorily required vaccinations, from which the physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse may select the relevant contraindication or precaution on behalf of such person, (3) a section in which the physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse may record a contraindication or precaution that is not recognized by the National

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, but in his or her discretion, results in the vaccination being medically contraindicated, including, but not limited to, any autoimmune disorder, family history of any autoimmune disorder, family history of any reaction to a vaccination, genetic predisposition to any reaction to a vaccination as determined through genetic testing and a previous documented reaction of a person that is correlated to a vaccination, (4) a section in which the physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse may include a written explanation for the exemption from any statutorily required vaccinations, (5) a section requiring the signature of the physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse, (6) a requirement that the physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse attach such person's most current immunization record, and (7) a synopsis of the grounds for any order of quarantine or isolation pursuant to section 19a-131b of the general statutes.

Sec. 8. (NEW) (Effective from passage) (a) There is established an Advisory Committee on Medically Contraindicated Vaccinations within the Department of Public Health for the purpose of advising the Commissioner of Public Health on issues concerning exemptions from state or federal requirements for vaccinations that result from a physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse stating that a vaccination is medically contraindicated for a person due to the medical condition of such person. Said advisory committee shall not be responsible for confirming or denying any determination by a physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse that a vaccination is medically contraindicated for a specific individual. In order to carry out its duties, the advisory committee shall (1) have access to the childhood immunization registry established by the department pursuant to section 19a-7h of the general statutes, (2) evaluate the process used by the department in collecting data concerning exemptions resulting from a vaccination being medically contraindicated and whether the department should have any oversight over such exemptions, (3) examine whether enrollment of an unvaccinated child into a program operated by a public or nonpublic school, institution of higher education, child care center or group child

629

630

631

632

633

634

635

636

637

638

639

640

641

642

643

644

645

646

647

648

649

650

651

652

653

654

655

656

657

658

659

660

661

662

care home should be conditioned upon the child meeting certain criteria, (4) calculate the ratio of school nurses to students in each public and nonpublic school in the state and the funding issues surrounding such ratio, (5) assess whether immunizations should be required more frequently than prior to enrollment into a program operated by a public or nonpublic school and prior to entering seventh grade, and (6) determine whether (A) there are any discrepancies in the issuance of certificates stating that a vaccine is medically contraindicated, and (B) to recommend continuing education of physicians, physician assistants or advanced practice registered nurses in vaccine contraindications and precautions. All information obtained by the advisory committee from such registry shall be confidential pursuant to section 19a-25 of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

- (b) The advisory committee shall consist of the following members:
- (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, one of whom shall be a physician licensed pursuant to chapter 370 of the general statutes who is a pediatrician, and one of whom shall be a member of the public;
 - (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one of whom shall be a physician licensed pursuant to chapter 370 of the general statutes who has expertise in the efficacy of vaccines, and one of whom shall be a member of the public;
- 686 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of Representatives, who shall be a school nurse;
- 688 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who shall be 689 a physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 370 of the general 690 statutes who has experience in the administration of vaccines;
 - (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives, who shall be an advanced practice registered nurse licensed pursuant to chapter 378 of the general statutes who has experience in the administration of vaccines;

(6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, who shall be
 a representative of the Connecticut Chapter of the American Academy
 of Pediatrics;

- 698 (7) The Commissioner of Public Health, or the commissioner's designee;
- 700 (8) The Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee; 701 and
- 702 (9) The Commissioner of Early Childhood, or the commissioner's designee.
- 704 (c) The members of the advisory committee shall elect a chairperson 705 of the advisory committee from among its members. Such chairperson 706 shall schedule the first meeting of the advisory committee, which shall 707 be held not later than October 1, 2021. The advisory committee shall 708 meet not less than biannually. On or before January 1, 2022, and 709 annually thereafter, the committee shall report, in accordance with the 710 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, on its activities and 711 findings to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly 712 having cognizance of matters relating to public health.
- 713 Sec. 9. (NEW) (Effective from passage) The Department of Public 714 Health, in collaboration with the state Department of Education and the 715 Office of Early Childhood, shall evaluate all of the data collected by said 716 departments concerning exemptions from immunization requirements. 717 Not later than January 1, 2022, and annually thereafter, the 718 Commissioners of Public Health, Education and Early Childhood shall 719 jointly report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the 720 general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General 721 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health and 722 education regarding the evaluation of such data.
- Sec. 10. Subsection (a) of section 38a-492r of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January* 1, 2022):

(a) Each individual health insurance policy providing coverage of the type specified in subdivisions (1), (2), (4), (11) and (12) of section 38a-469 delivered, issued for delivery, renewed, amended or continued in this state that provides coverage for prescription drugs shall provide [coverage for] (1) coverage for immunizations recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics, American Academy of Family Physicians and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, and (2) with respect to immunizations that have in effect a recommendation from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention with respect to the individual involved, coverage for such immunizations and at least a twenty-minute consultation between such individual and a health care provider authorized to administer such immunizations to such individual.

- Sec. 11. Subsection (a) of section 38a-518r of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January* 1, 2022):
- 743 (a) Each group health insurance policy providing coverage of the type specified in subdivisions (1), (2), (4), (11) and (12) of section 38a-469 744 745 delivered, issued for delivery, renewed, amended or continued in this 746 state that provides coverage for prescription drugs shall provide 747 [coverage for] (1) coverage for immunizations recommended by the 748 American Academy of Pediatrics, American Academy of Family 749 and the American College of Obstetricians and 750 Gynecologists, and (2) with respect to immunizations that have in effect 751 a recommendation from the Advisory Committee on Immunization 752 Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention with respect 753 to the individual involved, coverage for such immunizations and at least 754 a twenty-minute consultation between such individual and a health care 755 provider authorized to administer such immunizations to such 756 individual.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

726

727

728 729

730

731

732

733

734

735

736

737

738

Section 1	from passage	10-204a
Sec. 2	from passage	19a-25
Sec. 3	from passage	10a-155
Sec. 4	from passage	10a-155b(a)
Sec. 5	from passage	19a-79
Sec. 6	from passage	19a-87b
Sec. 7	from passage	New section
Sec. 8	from passage	New section
Sec. 9	from passage	New section
Sec. 10	January 1, 2022	38a-492r(a)
Sec. 11	January 1, 2022	38a-518r(a)

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Sections 1(b), 1(c), 1(d), 5(b), and 6(g), references to "guardians" were changed to "guardian" for consistency, in Section 3 (b), "subdivision (2) or (3)" was changed to "subdivision (2) [or (3)]" for accuracy and in Sections 10 and 11, "prescribe" was changed to "administer" for clarity.

PH Joint Favorable Subst.

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 22 \$	FY 23 \$
Board of Regents for Higher	GF - Revenue	Less than	Less than
Education	Loss	1.4 million	1.4 million
Public Health, Dept.	IF - Cost	Less than	Less than
_		\$91,000	\$91,000

Note: GF=General Fund; IF=Insurance Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This bill eliminates the religious exemption from immunization requirements for individuals attending public and private schools, child care centers, and group and family day care homes. This is anticipated to result in a cost to the Department of Public Health (DPH) of less than \$91,000 annually to purchase vaccines for privately insured children who would not have been vaccinated in the absence of the passage of the bill.¹

The bill grandfathers in individuals enrolled in 7th grade or higher who submitted a religious exemption prior to the bill's passage. Under the bill, individuals with prior religious exemptions who are enrolled in 6th grade or below generally must comply with immunization requirements.

The maximum annual DPH cost projection assumes, based on

¹ Funding to vaccinate children that are Medicaid-eligible, uninsured, underinsured, and/or American Indian or Alaska Native is provided by the Federal Vaccines for Children program.

national 2018 Census data, that 67% of school enterers with religious exemptions have private insurance. There were 1,536 RE in Connecticut for the 2020 school year. At least 1,075 students with religious exemptions are enrolled in grades K - 6. Assuming the same number of religious exemptions in each of FY 22 and FY 23, the maximum number of privately insured individuals that could be vaccinated due to the bill is approximately 720. Currently, the cost to fully vaccinate an insured Connecticut child 0-18 years of age with all recommended vaccines is approximately \$2,400 per child (an average of \$126 annually). The cost to DPH will vary based on several factors, including: (1) the number of privately insured individuals that would have procured a religious exemption that chooses to receive DPH-recommended vaccinations, rather than leave the state or become homeschooled, (2) the number of these individuals that are already vaccinated to some extent and for which preventable childhood diseases, (3) the utilization rate of combination vaccines, (4) the types of combination vaccines used, (5) the timing of vaccine administration, and (6) the price of vaccines.²

The bill is also anticipated to result in a potential revenue loss to the Board of Regents due to possible reduced enrollment, should prospective students who previously would have utilized a religious exemption continue to choose not to vaccinate themselves and, therefore, are unable to enroll.

The revenue loss to the Board of Regents for Higher Education is potential because it is possible that most, or all, of such prospective new students, will choose to receive vaccinations to enroll. The potential revenue loss may reach \$1.4 million annually, beginning in FY 22, if few such prospective students choose to comply with the vaccination requirements. However, if many comply, the potential revenue loss will be minimal.

Of the potential Board of Regents revenue loss, up to \$900,000 is

sHB6423 / File No. 431

² DPH purchases vaccines through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention contract that is negotiated between the vaccine manufacturers and the federal government each year.

associated with the possible total impact to the 12 community colleges, while up to \$435,000 is associated with potential total impact to the four Connecticut State Universities. The Connecticut State Universities may experience reduced tuition and fees revenue (up to approximately \$260,000) as well as auxiliary revenue for room and board (up to an estimated \$175,000). These estimates are based on: (1) recent data on the number of new students enrolled who have a religious exemption from vaccination requirements, (2) FY 22 tuition and fees rates, and (3) the anticipated FY 22 percent of first-year Connecticut State Universities students who plan to live on-campus and therefore will pay the FY 22 average room and board rate of \$13,548.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing cost to DPH identified above would continue into the future subject to: (1) the number of privately insured individuals that would have procured a religious exemption that choose to receive DPH-recommended vaccinations, rather than leave the state or become homeschooled, (2) the number of these individuals that are already vaccinated to some extent and for which preventable childhood diseases, (3) the utilization rate of combination vaccines, (4) the types of combination vaccines used, (5) the timing of vaccine administration, and (6) the price of vaccines. The potential revenue loss to the community colleges and the Connecticut State Universities will continue into the out years, dependent on the number of prospective students who choose not to vaccinate themselves that would have previously obtained a religious exemption, and any changes in the tuition, fees, room, and board rates.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis sHB 6423

AN ACT CONCERNING IMMUNIZATIONS.

SUMMARY

This bill eliminates the religious exemption from immunization requirements for individuals attending (1) public and private schools, including higher education institutions, and (2) child care centers and group and family day care homes. Under current law, individuals may opt out of vaccination if they present a statement that immunization would be contrary to their religious beliefs or, for minors, those of their parent or guardian (see BACKGROUND).

The bill grandfathers in individuals enrolled in 7th grade or higher who submitted a religious exemption prior to the bill's passage. Under the bill, individuals with prior religious exemptions who are enrolled in 6th grade or below generally must comply with immunization requirements by September 1, 2022, or within 14 days after transferring to a different school or applying to enroll at a different child care facility, whichever is later.

However, the bill allows these children to extend the timeframe within which they must comply with the immunization requirements if they present a written declaration from the child's physician, physician assistant (PA), or advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) that an alternative immunization schedule is recommended. This declaration must be acknowledged by a judge, family support magistrate, court clerk or deputy clerk, town clerk, notary public, justice of the peace, Connecticut attorney, or school nurse.

The bill also retains current law's medical exemption from these immunization requirements for individuals who can document that the immunization is medically contraindicated.

Additionally, the bill:

1. requires the Department of Public Health (DPH), by October 1, 2021, to develop and post on its website a medical exemption certificate for use by physicians, PAs, and APRNs (§ 7);

- 2. requires DPH to release annual immunization rates for each public and private K-12 school in the state, provided the data does not include individually-identifiable information (§§ 1 & 2);
- 3. establishes an 11-member DPH Advisory Committee on Medically Contraindicated Vaccinations to advise the commissioner on issues concerning medical exemptions from state or federal immunization requirements (§ 8);
- 4. requires the advisory committee to meet at least biannually and annually report on its activities and findings to the Public Health Committee, starting by January 1, 2022 (§ 8);
- 5. requires DPH, in collaboration with the Department of Education and the Office of Early Childhood, to evaluate data they collect on exemptions from immunization requirements, and these agencies to jointly report to the Public Health and Education committees on the evaluation annually, starting by January 1, 2022 (§ 9); and
- 6. requires certain health insurance policies that cover prescription drugs to cover at least a 20-minute immunization consultation between a patient and provider for vaccines recommended by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) (§§ 10 & 11).

Lastly, the bill makes minor, technical, and conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage, except for the insurance coverage provisions, which are effective January 1, 2022.

§ 7 — MEDICAL EXEMPTION CERTIFICATES

The bill requires the DPH commissioner, by October 1, 2021, to develop and post on the department's website, a certificate for use by physicians, PAs, and APRNs ("providers") that states that the provider believes that a required vaccination is medically contraindicated for an individual based on his or her physical condition.

The medical exemption certificate must include:

- 1. definitions of "contraindication" and "precaution";
- 2. a list of contraindications and precautions recognized by the CDC for each statutorily-required immunization from which the provider may select on behalf of an individual;
- 3. a section where the provider may record a contraindication or precaution not recognized by the CDC, but that in the provider's discretion, results in the vaccination being medically contraindicated, including (a) an autoimmune disorder or family history of one, (b) family history of a reaction to a vaccine, (c) genetic predisposition to a vaccine reaction determined by genetic testing, and (d) a previous documented reaction correlated to a vaccine;
- 4. a section where the provider may include a written explanation for the medical exemption;
- 5. a section requiring the provider's signature;
- 6. a requirement that the provider attach the individual's most current immunization record; and
- 7. a synopsis of the grounds for any order of quarantine or isolation related to the exemption.

§ 8 — DPH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Duties

The bill establishes an 11-member Advisory Committee on Medically

Contraindicated Vaccinations within DPH to advise the commissioner on issues concerning medical exemptions from state or federal immunization requirements. The committee is not responsible for confirming or denying any provider determination that a vaccine is medically contraindicated for an individual.

Under the bill, the advisory committee must:

- 8. have access to the department's childhood immunization registry;
- evaluate the process DPH uses to collect medical exemption data and whether the department should have oversight of those exemptions;
- 10. examine whether enrolling an unvaccinated student in a school, higher education institution, or child care facility should be conditioned upon the individual meeting certain criteria;
- 11. calculate the ratio of school nurses to students in each public and private school in the state and any associated funding issues;
- 12. assess whether school immunizations should be required more frequently than prior to enrolling in public or private school and prior to entering 7th grade; and
- 13. determine whether (a) there are any discrepancies in issuing medical exemptions and (b) to recommend continuing education for providers in immunization contraindications and precautions.

The bill specifies that information the advisory committee obtains from the childhood immunization registry is confidential. By law, medical information, records, and other data obtained by DPH generally (1) are confidential and not subject to disclosure, (2) are not admissible as evidence in any court or agency proceeding, and (3) must be used solely for medical or scientific research or disease control and prevention purposes.

Membership

Under the bill, the advisory committee members include:

14. one pediatrician and one member of the public, each appointed by the House speaker;

- 15. one physician with expertise in vaccine efficacy and one member of the public, each appointed by the Senate president protempore;
- 16. one school nurse, appointed by the House majority leader;
- 17. one PA with experience in administering vaccines, appointed by the Senate majority leader;
- 18. one APRN with experience in administering vaccines, appointed by the House minority leader;
- 19. one representative of the Connecticut Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, appointed by the Senate minority leader; and
- 20. the education, early childhood, and public health commissioners, or their designees.

Meetings and Reports

The bill requires the advisory committee to elect a chairperson from among its members. The chairperson must schedule the first meeting, which must be held by October 1, 2021, and the committee must meet at least biannually thereafter. The committee must also report on its activities and findings to the Public Health Committee annually, starting by January 1, 2022.

§§ 10 & 11 — INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR IMMUNIZATION CONSULTATIONS

The bill requires certain health insurance policies that cover prescription drugs to cover at least a 20-minute immunization consultation between a patient and a provider authorized to administer

them (e.g., a physician or advanced practice registered nurse). Coverage is only for consultations on immunizations recommended for the patient by the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) (see BACKGROUND).

The bill applies to individual and group health insurance policies delivered, issued, renewed, amended, or continued in Connecticut that cover (1) basic hospital expenses; (2) basic medical-surgical expenses; (3) major medical expenses; or (4) hospital or medical services, including those provided under an HMO plan. Because of the federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), state insurance benefit mandates do not apply to self-insured benefit plans.

BACKGROUND

Religious Exemption from Immunization Requirements

Under current law, the religious exemption statement must be officially acknowledged by one of specified individuals (e.g., notary public, town clerk, or school nurse). The parents or guardian must submit the religious exemption statement (1) before the student enrolls in public or private school and (2) before the student enrolls in seventh grade.

The same requirements for school children apply to children at child care settings, including day care centers and family and group day care homes.

Higher education students must submit the statement prior to enrollment. The form for these students does not need to be officially acknowledged.

Childhood Immunization Requirements

For school children, Connecticut law requires immunization against the following diseases (the specific immunization schedule varies by disease):

21. measles, mumps, and rubella;

- 22. polio;
- 23. diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis;
- 24. haemophilus influenza B (only if under age 5);
- 25. hepatitis A and B;
- 26. varicella (chicken pox);
- 27. influenza (only for preschool);
- 28. pneumonia (only if under age 5); and
- 29. meningitis (7th grade) (CGS § 10-204a and Conn. Agencies Regs. §§ 10-204a-1 et seq.).

The same requirements apply to children at child care settings, including day care centers and group and family day care homes (Conn. Agencies Regs., §§ 19a-79-6a & 19a-87b-10(k)).

Higher Education Immunization Requirements

Connecticut law generally requires full-time students attending instate post-secondary institutions to provide proof of adequate immunization against measles, mumps, and rubella and chicken pox (CGS § 10a-155). The law also requires each student who lives in oncampus housing to be vaccinated against meningitis (CGS § 10a-155b).

Insurance Coverage for Immunizations

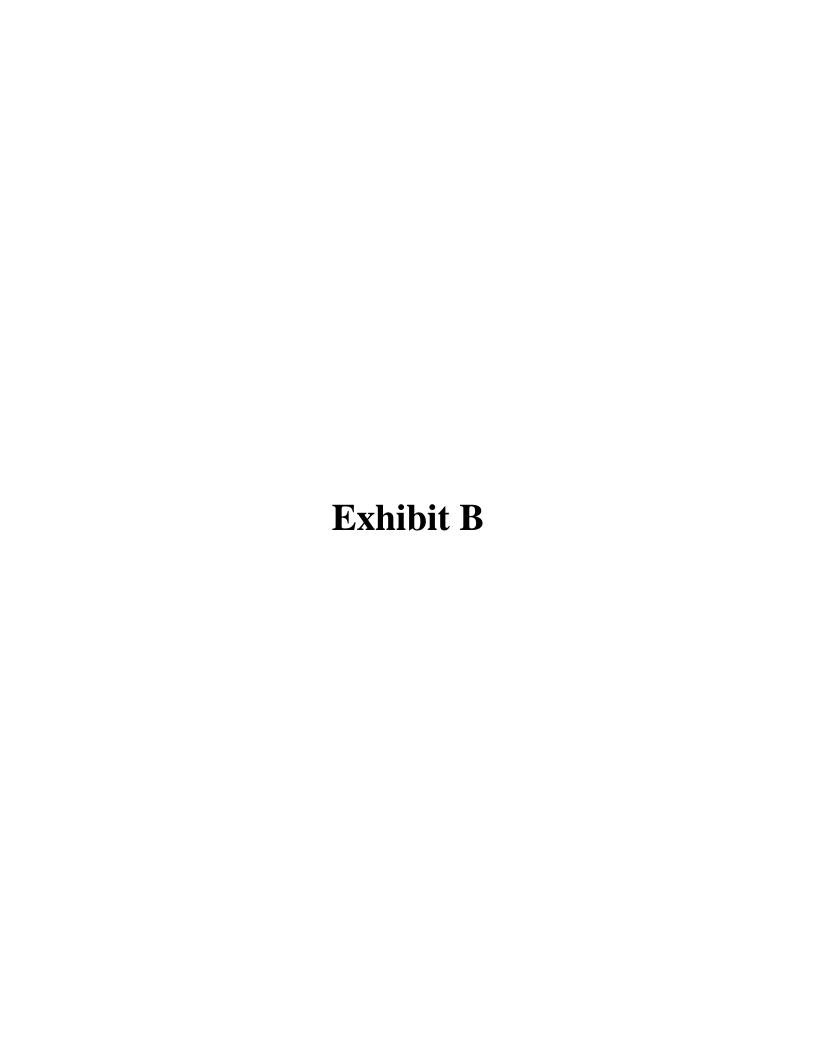
Existing law requires health insurance policies that cover prescription drugs to also cover certain immunizations for children, adolescents, and adults. Specifically, they must cover immunizations (1) recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics, American Academy of Family Physicians, and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and (2) that have, in effect, a recommendation from the CDC's ACIP with respect to the individual involved. These include, among others, immunizations for influenza, meningitis, tetanus, HPV, hepatitis A and B, measles, mumps, rubella,

and varicella.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Yea 22 Nay 11 (03/31/2021)





General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2021

LCO No. **7076**



Offered by:

REP. COOK, 65th Dist. REP. SCANLON, 98th Dist. REP. LINEHAN, 103rd Dist. REP. RYAN, 139th Dist. REP. DEMICCO, 21st Dist. REP. BORER, 115th Dist. REP. HORN, 64th Dist. REP. SANCHEZ, 25th Dist. REP. ARCONTI, 109th Dist. REP. DATHAN, 142nd Dist. REP. NOLAN, 39th Dist.

Dist. REP. GOUPIL, 35th Dist. REP. DIGIOVANCARLO, 74th Dist. REP. ALLIE-BRENNAN, 2nd Dist. REP. NAPOLI, 73rd Dist.

REP. KAVROS DEGRAW, 17th

REP. CARPINO, 32nd Dist. REP. MCCARTY, 38th Dist. REP. WOOD, 29th Dist. REP. COMEY, 102nd Dist. REP. LEEPER, 132nd Dist. REP. PARKER, 101st Dist.

REP. BERGER-GIRVALO, 111th Dist.

REP. JOHNSON, 49th Dist. REP. DOUCETTE, 13th Dist. REP. REYES, 75th Dist. REP. PALM, 36th Dist.

REP. LUXENBERG, 12th Dist. REP. CONCEPCION, 4th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 6423 File No. 431 Cal. No. 323

"AN ACT CONCERNING IMMUNIZATIONS."

- 1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
- 2 following in lieu thereof:
- 3 "Section 1. Section 10-204a of the general statutes are repealed and the
- 4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) Each local or regional board of education, or similar body governing a nonpublic school or schools, shall require each child to be protected by adequate immunization against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles, mumps, rubella, [hemophilus] haemophilus influenzae type B and any other vaccine required by the schedule for active immunization adopted pursuant to section 19a-7f before being permitted to enroll in any program operated by a public or nonpublic school under its jurisdiction. Before being permitted to enter seventh grade, a child shall receive a second immunization against measles. Any such child who (1) presents a certificate from a physician, physician assistant, advanced practice registered nurse or local health agency stating that initial immunizations have been given to such child and additional immunizations are in process (A) under guidelines and schedules specified by the Commissioner of Public Health, or (B) in the case of a child enrolled in a preschool program or other prekindergarten program who, prior to the effective date of this section, was exempt from the appropriate provisions of this section upon presentation of a statement that such immunizations would be contrary to the religious beliefs of such child or the parents or guardian of such child, as such additional immunizations are recommended, in a written declaration, in a form prescribed by the Commissioner of Public Health, for such child by a physician, a physician assistant or an advanced practice registered nurse; or (2) presents a certificate, in a form prescribed by the commissioner pursuant to section 7 of this act, from a physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse stating that in the opinion of such physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse such immunization is medically contraindicated because of the physical condition of such child; [or (3) presents a statement from the parents or guardian of such child that such immunization would be contrary to the religious beliefs of such child or the parents or guardian of such child, which statement shall be acknowledged, in accordance with the provisions of sections 1-32, 1-34 and 1-35, by (A) a judge of a court of record or a family support magistrate, (B) a clerk or deputy clerk of a court having a seal, (C) a town clerk, (D) a notary public, (E) a justice of the peace, (F) an attorney

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

admitted to the bar of this state, or (G) notwithstanding any provision of chapter 6, a school nurse;] or [(4)] (3) in the case of measles, mumps or rubella, presents a certificate from a physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse or from the director of health in such child's present or previous town of residence, stating that the child has had a confirmed case of such disease; or [(5)] (4) in the case of [hemophilus] haemophilus influenzae type B has passed [his] such <u>child's</u> fifth birthday; or [(6)] (5) in the case of pertussis, has passed [his] such child's sixth birthday, shall be exempt from the appropriate provisions of this section. [If the parents or guardians of any child are unable to pay for such immunizations, the expense of such immunizations shall, on the recommendations of such board of education, be paid by the town. Before being permitted to enter seventh grade, the parents or guardian of any child who is exempt on religious grounds from the immunization requirements of this section, pursuant to subdivision (3) of this subsection, shall present to such school a statement that such immunization requirements are contrary to the religious beliefs of such child or the parents or guardian of such child, which statement shall be acknowledged, in accordance with the provisions of sections 1-32, 1-34 and 1-35, by (A) a judge of a court of record or a family support magistrate, (B) a clerk or deputy clerk of a court having a seal, (C) a town clerk, (D) a notary public, (E) a justice of the peace, (F) an attorney admitted to the bar of this state, or (G) notwithstanding any provision of chapter 6, a school nurse.] The statement described in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be acknowledged, in accordance with the provisions of sections 1-32, 1-34 and 1-35, by a judge of a court of record or a family support magistrate, a clerk or deputy clerk of a court having a seal, a town clerk, a notary public, a justice of the peace, an attorney admitted to the bar of this state, or notwithstanding any provision of chapter 6, a school nurse.

(b) The immunization requirements provided for in subsection (a) of this section shall not apply to any child who is enrolled in kindergarten through twelfth grade on or before the effective date of this section if

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47 48

49

50

51

52

53

54

55

56

57

58

59

60

61

62

63

64

65

66 67

68 69

70

71

72

74 such child presented a statement, prior to the effective date of this 75 section, from the parents or guardian of such child that such 76 immunization is contrary to the religious beliefs of such child or the 77 parents or guardian of such child, and such statement was 78 acknowledged, in accordance with the provisions of sections 1-32, 1-34 79 and 1-35, by (1) a judge of a court of record or a family support 80 magistrate, (2) a clerk or deputy clerk of a court having a seal, (3) a town 81 clerk, (4) a notary public, (5) a justice of the peace, (6) an attorney 82 admitted to the bar of this state, or (7) notwithstanding any provision of 83 chapter 6, a school nurse.

84 (c) Any child who is enrolled in a preschool program or other prekindergarten program prior to the effective date of this section who 85 86 presented a statement, prior to the effective date of this section, from the 87 parents or guardian of such child that the immunization is contrary to 88 the religious beliefs of such child or the parents or guardian of such 89 child, which statement was acknowledged, in accordance with the provisions of sections 1-32, 1-34 and 1-35, by (1) a judge of a court of 90 91 record or a family support magistrate, (2) a clerk or deputy clerk of a 92 court having a seal, (3) a town clerk, (4) a notary public, (5) a justice of 93 the peace, (6) an attorney admitted to the bar of this state, or (7) 94 notwithstanding any provision of chapter 6, a school nurse, but did not 95 present a written declaration from a physician, a physician assistant or an advanced practice registered nurse stating that additional 96 97 immunizations are in process as recommended by such physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse, rather than as 98 99 recommended under guidelines and schedules specified by the Commissioner of Public Health, shall comply with the immunization 100 101 requirements provided for in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of 102 subsection (a) of this section on or before September 1, 2022, or not later than fourteen days after transferring to a program operated by a public 103 104 or nonpublic school under the jurisdiction of a local or regional board of 105 education or similar body governing a nonpublic school or schools, 106 whichever is later.

107 (d) If the parents or guardian of any child are unable to pay for any

108	immunization required by subsection (a) of this section, the expense of
109	such immunization shall, on the recommendation of such child's local
110	or regional board of education, or similar body governing a nonpublic
111	school or schools, be paid by the town.

- [(b)] (e) The definitions of adequate immunization shall reflect the schedule for active immunization adopted pursuant to section 19a-7f and be established by regulation adopted in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 by the Commissioner of Public Health, who shall also be responsible for providing procedures under which [said] such boards and [said] such similar governing bodies shall collect and report immunization data on each child to the Department of Public Health for (1) compilation and analysis by [said] the department, and (2) release by the department of annual immunization rates for each public and nonpublic school in the state, provided such immunization data may not contain information that identifies a specific individual.
- [(c)] (f) The Commissioner of Public Health may issue a temporary waiver to the schedule for active immunization for any vaccine if the National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recognizes a nation-wide shortage of supply for such vaccine.
- Sec. 2. Section 19a-25 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
 - (a) All information, records of interviews, written reports, statements, notes, memoranda or other data, including personal data as defined in subdivision (9) of section 4-190, procured by: [the] (1) The Department of Public Health, by staff committees of facilities accredited by the Department of Public Health or the maternity mortality review committee, established pursuant to section 19a-59i, in connection with studies of morbidity and mortality conducted by the Department of Public Health, such staff committees or the maternal mortality review committee, or carried on by said department, such staff committees or the maternal mortality review committee jointly with other persons, agencies or organizations, [or procured by] (2) the directors of health of

towns, cities or boroughs or the Department of Public Health pursuant to section 19a-215, or [procured by] (3) such other persons, agencies or organizations, for the purpose of reducing the morbidity or mortality from any cause or condition, shall be confidential and shall be used solely for the purposes of medical or scientific research and, for information obtained pursuant to section 19a-215, disease prevention and control by the local director of health and the Department of Public Health. Such information, records, reports, statements, notes, memoranda or other data shall not be admissible as evidence in any action of any kind in any court or before any other tribunal, board, agency or person, nor shall it be exhibited or its contents disclosed in any way, in whole or in part, by any officer or representative of the Department of Public Health or of any such facility, by any person participating in such a research project or by any other person, except as may be necessary for the purpose of furthering the research project to which it relates.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 55, the Department of Public Health may exchange personal data for the purpose of medical or scientific research, with any other governmental agency or private research organization; provided such state, governmental agency or private research organization shall not further disclose such personal data. The Commissioner of Public Health shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, consistent with the purposes of this section to establish the procedures to ensure the confidentiality of such disclosures. The furnishing of such information to the Department of Public Health or its authorized representative, or to any other agency cooperating in such a research project, shall not subject any person, hospital, [sanitarium] behavioral health facility, rest home, nursing home or other person or agency furnishing such information to any action for damages or other relief because of such disclosure. [This section shall not be deemed to affect disclosure]

(c) The provisions of this section shall not affect: (1) Disclosure of regular hospital and medical records made in the course of the regular notation of the care and treatment of any patient, but only records or

- 174 notations by [such] the staff committees described in subsection (a) of
- 175 <u>this section</u> pursuant to their work, or (2) release by the Department of
- 176 Public Health of annual immunization rates for each public and
- 177 nonpublic school in the state pursuant to section 10-204a, as amended
- 178 by this act.
- Sec. 3. Section 10a-155 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 180 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 181 (a) Each institution of higher education shall require each full-time or
- matriculating student born after December 31, 1956, to provide proof of
- adequate immunization against measles, rubella, [and on and after
- August 1, 2010, to provide proof of adequate immunization against
- 185 mumps and varicella as recommended by the national Advisory
- 186 Committee for Immunization Practices before permitting such student
- to enroll in such institution. [Any such]
- (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,
 any student who (1) presents a certificate, in a form prescribed by the
- 190 <u>Commissioner of Public Health pursuant to section 7 of this act, from a</u>
- 191 physician, a physician assistant or an advanced practice registered nurse
- stating that in the opinion of such physician, physician assistant or
- advanced practice registered nurse such immunization is medically contraindicated, (2) [provides] prior to the effective date of this section,
- provided a statement that such immunization [would be] is contrary to
- 196 his <u>or her</u> religious beliefs, (3) presents a certificate from a physician, <u>a</u>
- 197 physician assistant, an advanced practice registered nurse or the
- 198 director of health in the student's present or previous town of residence,
- 199 stating that the student has had a confirmed case of such disease, (4) is
- 200 enrolled exclusively in a program for which students do not congregate
- 201 on campus for classes or to participate in institutional-sponsored events,
- 202 such as students enrolled in distance learning programs for
- 203 individualized home study or programs conducted entirely through
- 204 electronic media in a setting without other students present, or (5)
- graduated from a public or nonpublic high school in this state in 1999 or
- 206 later and was not exempt from the measles, rubella and [on and after

- August 1, 2010, the] mumps vaccination requirement pursuant to subdivision (2) [or (3)] of subsection (a) of section 10-204a, as amended
- 209 by this act, shall be exempt from the appropriate provisions of this
- 210 section.
- 211 [(b)] (c) Each institution of higher education shall keep uniform 212 records of the immunizations and immunization status of each student, 213 based on the certificate of immunization or other evidence acceptable pursuant to subsection [(a)] (b) of this section. The record shall be part 214 215 of the student's permanent record. By November first of each year, the 216 chief administrative officer of each institution of higher education shall 217 cause to be submitted to the Commissioner of Public Health, on a form 218 provided by the commissioner, a summary report of the immunization 219 status of all students enrolling in such institution.
- Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 10a-155b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 223 (a) For students who first enroll in the 2014-2015 school year, and first 224 enroll in each school year thereafter, each public or private college or 225 university in this state shall require that each student who resides in on-226 campus housing be vaccinated against meningitis and submit evidence 227 of having received a meningococcal conjugate vaccine not more than 228 five years before enrollment as a condition of such residence. The 229 provisions of this subsection shall not apply to any such student who (1) 230 presents a certificate, in a form prescribed by the Commissioner of 231 Public Health pursuant to section 7 of this act, from a physician, an 232 advanced practice registered nurse or a physician assistant stating that, 233 in the opinion of such physician, advanced practice registered nurse or 234 physician assistant, such vaccination is medically contraindicated 235 because of the physical condition of such student, or (2) [presents] prior 236 to the effective date of this section, presented a statement that such 237 vaccination [would be] is contrary to the religious beliefs of such 238 student.

- Sec. 5. Section 19a-79 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
 - (a) The Commissioner of Early Childhood shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to carry out the purposes of sections 19a-77 to 19a-80, inclusive, and 19a-82 to 19a-87, inclusive, and to assure that child care centers and group child care homes meet the health, educational and social needs of children utilizing such child care centers and group child care homes. Such regulations shall (1) specify that before being permitted to attend any child care center or group child care home, each child shall be protected as age-appropriate by adequate immunization against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles, mumps, rubella, [hemophilus] haemophilus influenzae type B and any other vaccine required by the schedule of active immunization adopted pursuant to section 19a-7f, [including appropriate exemptions for children for whom such immunization is medically contraindicated and for children whose parent or guardian objects to such immunization on religious grounds, and that any objection by a parent or a guardian to immunization of a child on religious grounds shall be accompanied by a statement from such parent or guardian that such immunization would be contrary to the religious beliefs of such child or the parent or guardian of such child, which statement shall be acknowledged, in accordance with the provisions of sections 1-32, 1-34 and 1-35, by (A) a judge of a court of record or a family support magistrate, (B) a clerk or deputy clerk of a court having a seal, (C) a town clerk, (D) a notary public, (E) a justice of the peace, or (F) an attorney admitted to the bar of this state, (2) specify conditions under which child care center directors and teachers and group child care home providers may administer tests to monitor glucose levels in a child with diagnosed diabetes mellitus, and administer medicinal preparations, including controlled drugs specified in the regulations by the commissioner, to a child receiving child care services at such child care center or group child care home pursuant to the written order of a physician licensed to practice medicine or a dentist licensed to practice dental medicine in this or another state, or an advanced practice

241

242

243

244

245

246

247

248

249

250

251

252

253

254

255

256

257

258

259

260

261

262

263

264

265

266

267

268

269

270

271

registered nurse licensed to prescribe in accordance with section 20-94a, or a physician assistant licensed to prescribe in accordance with section 20-12d, and the written authorization of a parent or guardian of such child, (3) specify that an operator of a child care center or group child care home, licensed before January 1, 1986, or an operator who receives a license after January 1, 1986, for a facility licensed prior to January 1, 1986, shall provide a minimum of thirty square feet per child of total indoor usable space, free of furniture except that needed for the children's purposes, exclusive of toilet rooms, bathrooms, coatrooms, kitchens, halls, isolation room or other rooms used for purposes other than the activities of the children, (4) specify that a child care center or group child care home licensed after January 1, 1986, shall provide thirty-five square feet per child of total indoor usable space, (5) establish appropriate child care center staffing requirements for employees certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation by the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association, the National Safety Council, American Safety and Health Institute, Medic First Aid International, Inc. or an organization using guidelines for cardiopulmonary resuscitation and emergency cardiovascular care published by the American Heart Association and International Liaison Committee on Resuscitation, (6) specify that [on and after January 1, 2003,] a child care center or group child care home (A) shall not deny services to a child on the basis of a child's known or suspected allergy or because a child has a prescription for an automatic prefilled cartridge injector or similar automatic injectable equipment used to treat an allergic reaction, or for injectable equipment used to administer glucagon, (B) shall, not later than three weeks after such child's enrollment in such a center or home, have staff trained in the use of such equipment on-site during all hours when such a child is on-site, (C) shall require such child's parent or guardian to provide the injector or injectable equipment and a copy of the prescription for such medication and injector or injectable equipment upon enrollment of such child, and (D) shall require a parent or guardian enrolling such a child to replace such medication and equipment prior to its expiration date, (7) specify that [on and after January 1, 2005, a child care center or group child care home (A) shall

273

274

275

276

277

278

279

280

281

282

283

284

285

286

287

288

289

290

291

292

293

294

295

296

297

298

299

300

301

302

303

304

305

not deny services to a child on the basis of a child's diagnosis of asthma or because a child has a prescription for an inhalant medication to treat asthma, and (B) shall, not later than three weeks after such child's enrollment in such a center or home, have staff trained in the administration of such medication on-site during all hours when such a child is on-site, and (8) establish physical plant requirements for licensed child care centers and licensed group child care homes that exclusively serve school-age children. When establishing such requirements, the Office of Early Childhood shall give consideration to child care centers and group child care homes that are located in private or public school buildings. With respect to this subdivision only, the commissioner shall implement policies and procedures necessary to implement the physical plant requirements established pursuant to this subdivision while in the process of adopting such policies and procedures in regulation form. Until replaced by policies and procedures implemented pursuant to this subdivision, any physical plant requirement specified in the office's regulations that is generally applicable to child care centers and group child care homes shall continue to be applicable to such centers and homes that exclusively serve school-age children. The commissioner shall [print] post notice of the intent to adopt regulations pursuant to this subdivision on the eRegulations System not later than twenty days after the date of implementation of such policies and procedures. Policies and procedures implemented pursuant to this subdivision shall be valid until the time final regulations are adopted.

(b) Any child who (1) presents a certificate, in a form prescribed by the Commissioner of Public Health pursuant to section 7 of this act, signed by a physician, a physician assistant or an advanced practice registered nurse stating that, in the opinion of such physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse, the immunizations required pursuant to regulations adopted pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section are medically contraindicated, (2) in the case of a child who is enrolled in kindergarten through twelfth grade, presented a statement, prior to the effective date of this section, that such

308

309

310

311

312

313

314

315

316

317

318

319

320

321

322

323

324

325

326

327

328

329

330

331

332

333

334

335

336

337 338

339

340

immunizations are contrary to the religious beliefs of such child or the parents or guardian of such child, or (3) in the case of a child who is enrolled in a preschool program or other prekindergarten program or below, (A) presented a statement, prior to the effective date of this section, that such immunizations are contrary to the religious beliefs of such child or the parents or guardian of such child, and (B) presents a written declaration, in a form prescribed by the Commissioner of Public Health, from a physician, a physician assistant or an advanced practice registered nurse stating that an immunization against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles, mumps, rubella, haemophilus influenzae type B and any other vaccine required by the schedule of active immunization adopted pursuant to section 19a-7f has been given to such child and that any additional necessary immunizations of such student against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles, mumps, rubella, haemophilus influenzae type B and any other vaccine required by such schedule of active immunization are in process under guidelines specified by the Commissioner of Public Health or as recommended for the child by the physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse, shall be exempt from the immunization requirements set forth in such regulations. The statement described in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of this subsection shall be acknowledged, in accordance with the provisions of sections 1-32, 1-34 and 1-35, by a judge of a court of record or a family support magistrate, a clerk or deputy clerk of a court having a seal, a town clerk, a notary public, a justice of the peace, or an attorney admitted to the bar of this state.

(c) Any child who is enrolled in a preschool program or other prekindergarten program or below on or before the effective date of this section who presented, prior to the effective date of this section, the statement described in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of this section, but did not present the written declaration described in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of this section, shall comply, on or before September 1, 2022, or not later than fourteen days after applying to enroll in the child care center or group

342

343

344

345

346347

348

349

350 351

352

353 354

355

356

357

358 359

360

361 362

363364

365

366

367

368369

370

371

372

373374

- 376 <u>child care home, whichever is later, with the immunization</u> 377 <u>requirements set forth in the regulations adopted pursuant to</u> 378 subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section.
- [(b)] (d) The commissioner may adopt regulations, pursuant to chapter 54, to establish civil penalties of not more than one hundred dollars per day for each day of violation and other disciplinary remedies that may be imposed, following a contested-case hearing, upon the holder of a license issued under section 19a-80 to operate a child care center or group child care home or upon the holder of a license issued under section 19a-87b, as amended by this act, to operate a family child care home.
 - [(c)] (e) The commissioner shall exempt Montessori schools accredited by the American Montessori Society or the Association Montessori Internationale from any provision in regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section which sets requirements on group size or child to staff ratios or the provision of cots.
 - [(d)] (f) Upon the declaration by the Governor of a civil preparedness emergency pursuant to section 28-9 or a public health emergency pursuant to section 19a-131a, the commissioner may waive the provisions of any regulation adopted pursuant to this section if the commissioner determines that such waiver would not endanger the life, safety or health of any child. The commissioner shall prescribe the duration of such waiver, provided such waiver shall not extend beyond the duration of the declared emergency. The commissioner shall establish the criteria by which a waiver request shall be made and the conditions for which a waiver will be granted or denied. The provisions of section 19a-84 shall not apply to a denial of a waiver request under this subsection.
 - [(e)] (g) Any child care center or group child care home may provide child care services to homeless children and youths, as defined in 42 USC 11434a, as amended from time to time, for a period not to exceed ninety days without complying with any provision in regulations

adopted pursuant to this section relating to immunization and physical examination requirements. Any child care center or group child care home that provides child care services to homeless children and youths at such center or home under this subsection shall maintain a record on file of all homeless children and youths who have attended such center or home for a period of two years after such homeless children or youths are no longer receiving child care services at such center or home.

[(f)] (h) Any child care center or group child care home may provide child care services to a foster child for a period not to exceed forty-five days without complying with any provision in regulations adopted pursuant to this section relating to immunization and physical examination requirements. Any child care center or group child care home that provides child care services to a foster child at such center or home under this subsection shall maintain a record on file of such foster child for a period of two years after such foster child is no longer receiving child care services at such center or home. For purposes of this subsection, "foster child" means a child who is in the care and custody of the Commissioner of Children and Families and placed in a foster home licensed pursuant to section 17a-114, foster home approved by a child-placing agency licensed pursuant to section 17a-149, facility licensed pursuant to section 17a-145 or with a relative or fictive kin caregiver pursuant to section 17a-114.

Sec. 6. Section 19a-87b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) No person, group of persons, association, organization, corporation, institution or agency, public or private, shall maintain a family child care home, as defined in section 19a-77, without a license issued by the Commissioner of Early Childhood. Licensure forms shall be obtained from the Office of Early Childhood. Applications for licensure shall be made to the commissioner on forms provided by the office and shall contain the information required by regulations adopted under this section. The licensure and application forms shall contain a notice that false statements made therein are punishable in accordance

with section 53a-157b. Applicants shall state, in writing, that they are in compliance with the regulations adopted by the commissioner pursuant to subsection (f) of this section. Before a family child care home license is granted, the office shall make an inquiry and investigation which shall include a visit and inspection of the premises for which the license is requested. Any inspection conducted by the office shall include an inspection for evident sources of lead poisoning. The office shall provide for a chemical analysis of any paint chips found on such premises. Neither the commissioner nor the commissioner's designee shall require an annual inspection for homes seeking license renewal or for licensed homes, except that the commissioner or the commissioner's designee shall make an unannounced visit, inspection or investigation of each licensed family child care home at least once every year. A licensed family child care home shall not be subject to any conditions on the operation of such home by local officials, other than those imposed by the office pursuant to this subsection, if the home complies with all local codes and ordinances applicable to single and multifamily dwellings.

(b) No person shall act as an assistant or substitute staff member to a person or entity maintaining a family child care home, as defined in section 19a-77, without an approval issued by the commissioner. Any person seeking to act as an assistant or substitute staff member in a family child care home shall submit an application for such approval to the office. Applications for approval shall: (1) Be made to the commissioner on forms provided by the office, (2) contain the information required by regulations adopted under this section, and (3) be accompanied by a fee of fifteen dollars. The approval application forms shall contain a notice that false statements made in such form are punishable in accordance with section 53a-157b.

(c) The commissioner, within available appropriations, shall require each initial applicant or prospective employee of a family child care home in a position requiring the provision of care to a child, including an assistant or substitute staff member and each household member who is sixteen years of age or older, to submit to comprehensive background checks, including state and national criminal history

- records checks. The criminal history records checks required pursuant to this subsection shall be conducted in accordance with section 29-17a. The commissioner shall also request a check of the state child abuse registry established pursuant to section 17a-101k. The commissioner shall notify each licensee of the provisions of this subsection. For purposes of this subsection, "household member" means any person, other than the person who is licensed to conduct, operate or maintain a family child care home, who resides in the family child care home, such as the licensee's spouse or children, tenants and any other occupant.
- (d) An application for initial licensure pursuant to this section shall be accompanied by a fee of forty dollars and such license shall be issued for a term of four years. An application for renewal of a license issued pursuant to this section shall be accompanied by a fee of forty dollars and a certification from the licensee that any child enrolled in the family child care home has received age-appropriate immunizations in accordance with regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (f) of this section. A license issued pursuant to this section shall be renewed for a term of four years. In the case of an applicant submitting an application for renewal of a license that has expired, and who has ceased operations of a family child care home due to such expired license, the commissioner may renew such expired license within thirty days of the date of such expiration upon receipt of an application for renewal that is accompanied by such fee and such certification.
- (e) An application for initial staff approval or renewal of staff approval shall be accompanied by a fee of fifteen dollars. Such approvals shall be issued or renewed for a term of two years.
- (f) The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to assure that family child care homes, as defined in section 19a-77, meet the health, educational and social needs of children utilizing such homes. Such regulations shall ensure that the family child care home is treated as a residence, and not an institutional facility. Such regulations shall specify that each child be protected as age-appropriate by adequate immunization against diphtheria,

pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles, mumps, rubella, [hemophilus] haemophilus influenzae type B and any other vaccine required by the schedule of active immunization adopted pursuant to section 19a-7f. [Such regulations shall provide appropriate exemptions for children for whom such immunization is medically contraindicated and for children whose parents or guardian objects to such immunization on religious grounds and require that any such objection be accompanied by a statement from such parents or guardian that such immunization would be contrary to the religious beliefs of such child or the parents or guardian of such child, which statement shall be acknowledged, in accordance with the provisions of sections 1-32, 1-34 and 1-35, by (1) a judge of a court of record or a family support magistrate, (2) a clerk or deputy clerk of a court having a seal, (3) a town clerk, (4) a notary public, (5) a justice of the peace, or (6) an attorney admitted to the bar of this state.] Such regulations shall also specify conditions under which family child care home providers may administer tests to monitor glucose levels in a child with diagnosed diabetes mellitus, and administer medicinal preparations, including controlled drugs specified in the regulations by the commissioner, to a child receiving child care services at a family child care home pursuant to a written order of a physician licensed to practice medicine in this or another state, an advanced practice registered nurse licensed to prescribe in accordance with section 20-94a or a physician assistant licensed to prescribe in accordance with section 20-12d, and the written authorization of a parent or guardian of such child. Such regulations shall specify appropriate standards for extended care and intermittent short-term overnight care. The commissioner shall inform each licensee, by way of a plain language summary provided not later than sixty days after the regulation's effective date, of any new or changed regulations adopted under this subsection with which a licensee must comply.

(g) Any child who (1) presents a certificate, in a form prescribed by the Commissioner of Public Health pursuant to section 7 of this act, signed by a physician, a physician assistant or an advanced practice registered nurse stating that, in the opinion of such physician, physician

508

509

510511

512

513

514

515

516

517

518

519

520

521

522

523

524

525

526

527

528

529

530

531

532

533

534

535

536

537

538

539

540

assistant or advanced practice registered nurse, the immunizations
required pursuant to regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (f) of
this section are medically contraindicated, (2) in the case of a child who
is enrolled in kindergarten through twelfth grade, presented a
statement, prior to the effective date of this section, that such
immunizations are contrary to the religious beliefs of such child or the
parents or guardian of such child, or (3) in the case of a child who is
enrolled in a preschool program or other prekindergarten program or
below, (A) presented a statement, prior to the effective date of this
section, that such immunizations are contrary to the religious beliefs of
such child or the parents or guardian of such child, and (B) presents a
written declaration, in a form prescribed by the Commissioner of Public
Health, from a physician, physician assistant or advanced practice
registered nurse stating that an immunization against diphtheria,
pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles, mumps, rubella, haemophilus
influenzae type B and any other vaccine required by the schedule of
active immunization adopted pursuant to section 19a-7f has been given
to such child and that any additional necessary immunizations of such
student against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles,
mumps, rubella, haemophilus influenzae type B and any other vaccine
required by such schedule of active immunization are in process under
guidelines specified by the Commissioner of Public Health or as
recommended for the child by the physician, physician assistant or
advanced practice registered nurse, shall be exempt from the
immunization requirements set forth in such regulations. The statement
described in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of this subsection shall
be acknowledged, in accordance with the provisions of sections 1-32, 1-
34 and 1-35, by (i) a judge of a court of record or a family support
magistrate, (ii) a clerk or deputy clerk of a court having a seal, (iii) a
town clerk, (iv) a notary public, (v) a justice of the peace, or (vi) an
attorney admitted to the bar of this state.

(h) Any child who is enrolled in a preschool program or other prekindergarten program or below on or before the effective date of this section who presented, prior to the effective date of this section, the

statement described in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of subsection (g) of this section, but did not present the written declaration described in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (3) of subsection (g) of this section shall comply, on or before September 1, 2022, or not later than fourteen days after applying to enroll in the family child care home, whichever is later, with the immunization requirements set forth in the regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (f) of this section.

[(g)] (i) Upon the declaration by the Governor of a civil preparedness emergency pursuant to section 28-9 or a public health emergency pursuant to section 19a-131a, the commissioner may waive the provisions of any regulation adopted pursuant to this section if the commissioner determines that such waiver would not endanger the life, safety or health of any child. The commissioner shall prescribe the duration of such waiver, provided such waiver shall not extend beyond the duration of the declared emergency. The commissioner shall establish the criteria by which a waiver request shall be made and the conditions for which a waiver will be granted or denied. The provisions of section 19a-84 shall not apply to a denial of a waiver request under this subsection.

[(h)] (j) Any family child care home may provide child care services to homeless children and youths, as defined in 42 USC 11434a, as amended from time to time, for a period not to exceed ninety days without complying with any provision in regulations adopted pursuant to this section relating to immunization and physical examination requirements. Any family child care home that provides child care services to homeless children and youths at such home under this subsection shall maintain a record on file of all homeless children and youths who have attended such home for a period of two years after such homeless children or youths are no longer receiving child care services at such home.

[(i)] (k) Any family child care home may provide child care services to a foster child for a period not to exceed forty-five days without complying with any provision in regulations adopted pursuant to this

2021LCO07076-R00-

section relating to immunization and physical examination requirements. Any family child care home that provides child care services to a foster child at such home under this subsection shall maintain a record on file of such foster child for a period of two years after such foster child is no longer receiving child care services at such home. For purposes of this subsection, "foster child" means a child who is in the care and custody of the Commissioner of Children and Families and placed in a foster home licensed pursuant to section 17a-114, foster home approved by a child-placing agency licensed pursuant to section 17a-149, facility licensed pursuant to section 17a-145 or with a relative or fictive kin caregiver pursuant to section 17a-114.

609

610

611

612

613

614

615

616 617

618

619

620

621

622

623

624

625

626

627

628

629

630

631

632

633

634

635

636

637

638

639

640

641

642

Sec. 7. (NEW) (Effective from passage) On or before October 1, 2021, the Commissioner of Public Health shall develop and make available on the Internet web site of the Department of Public Health a certificate for use by a physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse stating that, in the opinion of such physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse, a vaccination required by the general statutes is medically contraindicated for a person because of the physical condition of such person. The certificate shall include (1) definitions of the terms "contraindication" and "precaution", (2) a list of contraindications and precautions recognized by the National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for each of the statutorily required vaccinations, from which the physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse may select the relevant contraindication or precaution on behalf of such person, (3) a section in which the physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse may record a contraindication or precaution that is not recognized by the National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, but in his or her discretion, results in the vaccination being medically contraindicated, including, but not limited to, any autoimmune disorder, family history of any autoimmune disorder, family history of any reaction to a vaccination, genetic predisposition to any reaction to a vaccination as determined through genetic testing and a previous documented reaction of a person that is correlated to a vaccination, (4) a section in which the physician,

physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse may include a written explanation for the exemption from any statutorily required vaccinations, (5) a section requiring the signature of the physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse, (6) a requirement that the physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse attach such person's most current immunization record, and (7) a synopsis of the grounds for any order of quarantine or isolation pursuant to section 19a-131b of the general statutes.

Sec. 8. (NEW) (Effective from passage) (a) There is established an Advisory Committee on Medically Contraindicated Vaccinations within the Department of Public Health for the purpose of advising the Commissioner of Public Health on issues concerning exemptions from state or federal requirements for vaccinations that result from a physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse stating that a vaccination is medically contraindicated for a person due to the medical condition of such person. Said advisory committee shall not be responsible for confirming or denying any determination by a physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse that a vaccination is medically contraindicated for a specific individual. In order to carry out its duties, the advisory committee shall (1) have access to the childhood immunization registry established by the department pursuant to section 19a-7h of the general statutes, (2) evaluate the process used by the department in collecting data concerning resulting vaccination exemptions from a being medically contraindicated and whether the department should have any oversight over such exemptions, (3) examine whether enrollment of an unvaccinated child into a program operated by a public or nonpublic school, institution of higher education, child care center or group child care home should be conditioned upon the child meeting certain criteria, (4) calculate the ratio of school nurses to students in each public and nonpublic school in the state and the funding issues surrounding such ratio, (5) assess whether immunizations should be required more frequently than prior to enrollment into a program operated by a public or nonpublic school and prior to entering seventh grade, and (6)

643

644

645

646

647

648

649

650

651

652

653

654

655

656

657

658

659

660

661

662

663

664 665

666

667

668

669

670

671

672

673

674

675

677	determine whether (A) there are any discrepancies in the issuance of
678	certificates stating that a vaccine is medically contraindicated, and (B) to
679	recommend continuing education of physicians, physician assistants or
680	advanced practice registered nurses in vaccine contraindications and
681	precautions. All information obtained by the advisory committee from
682	such registry shall be confidential pursuant to section 19a-25 of the
683	general statutes, as amended by this act.

- (b) The advisory committee shall consist of the following members:
- (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, one of whom shall be a physician licensed pursuant to chapter 370 of the general statutes who is a pediatrician, and one of whom shall be a member of the public;
- (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one of whom shall be a physician licensed pursuant to chapter 370 of the general statutes who has expertise in the efficacy of vaccines, and one of whom shall be a member of the public;
- 693 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of 694 Representatives, who shall be a school nurse;
- 695 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who shall be 696 a physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 370 of the general 697 statutes who has experience in the administration of vaccines;
- (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives, who shall be an advanced practice registered nurse licensed pursuant to chapter 378 of the general statutes who has experience in the administration of vaccines;
- (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, who shall be
 a representative of the Connecticut Chapter of the American Academy
 of Pediatrics;
- 705 (7) The Commissioner of Public Health, or the commissioner's 706 designee;

- 707 (8) The Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee; 708 and
- 709 (9) The Commissioner of Early Childhood, or the commissioner's 710 designee.
- 711 (c) The members of the advisory committee shall elect a chairperson 712 of the advisory committee from among its members. Such chairperson 713 shall schedule the first meeting of the advisory committee, which shall 714 be held not later than October 1, 2021. The advisory committee shall 715 meet not less than biannually. On or before January 1, 2022, and 716 annually thereafter, the committee shall report, in accordance with the 717 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, on its activities and 718 findings to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly 719 having cognizance of matters relating to public health.
- 720 Sec. 9. (NEW) (Effective from passage) The Department of Public 721 Health, in collaboration with the state Department of Education and the 722 Office of Early Childhood, shall evaluate all of the data collected by said 723 departments concerning exemptions from immunization requirements. 724 Not later than January 1, 2022, and annually thereafter, the 725 Commissioners of Public Health, Education and Early Childhood shall 726 jointly report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the 727 general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General 728 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health and 729 education regarding the evaluation of such data.
- Sec. 10. Subsection (a) of section 38a-492r of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January* 1, 2022):
 - (a) Each individual health insurance policy providing coverage of the type specified in subdivisions (1), (2), (4), (11) and (12) of section 38a-469 delivered, issued for delivery, renewed, amended or continued in this state that provides coverage for prescription drugs shall provide [coverage for] (1) coverage for immunizations recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics, American Academy of Family

733

734

735736

737

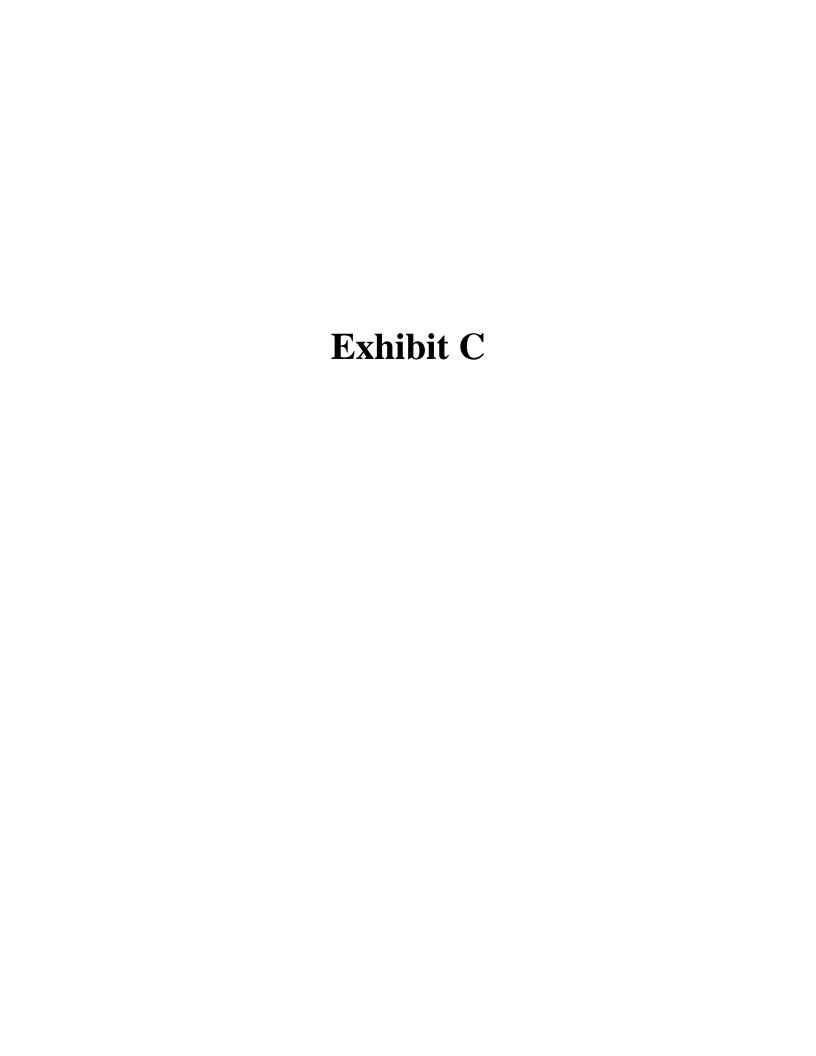
Physicians and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, and (2) with respect to immunizations that have in effect a recommendation from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention with respect to the individual involved, coverage for such immunizations and at least a twenty-minute consultation between such individual and a health care provider authorized to administer such immunizations to such individual.

Sec. 11. Subsection (a) of section 38a-518r of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January* 1, 2022):

(a) Each group health insurance policy providing coverage of the type specified in subdivisions (1), (2), (4), (11) and (12) of section 38a-469 delivered, issued for delivery, renewed, amended or continued in this state that provides coverage for prescription drugs shall provide [coverage for] (1) coverage for immunizations recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics, American Academy of Family Physicians and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, and (2) with respect to immunizations that have in effect a recommendation from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention with respect to the individual involved, coverage for such immunizations and at least a twenty-minute consultation between such individual and a health care provider authorized to administer such immunizations to such individual."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:			
Section 1	from passage	10-204a	
Sec. 2	from passage	19a-25	
Sec. 3	from passage	10a-155	
Sec. 4	from passage	10a-155b(a)	
Sec. 5	from passage	19a-79	
Sec. 6	from passage	19a-87b	

Sec. 7	from passage	New section
Sec. 8	from passage	New section
Sec. 9	from passage	New section
Sec. 10	January 1, 2022	38a-492r(a)
Sec. 11	January 1, 2022	38a-518r(a)





General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2021

LCO No. 7009



Offered by:

3

4 5

6 7

8

9

10

REP. DAUPHINAIS, 44th Dist. SEN. SOMERS, 18th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. **6423**

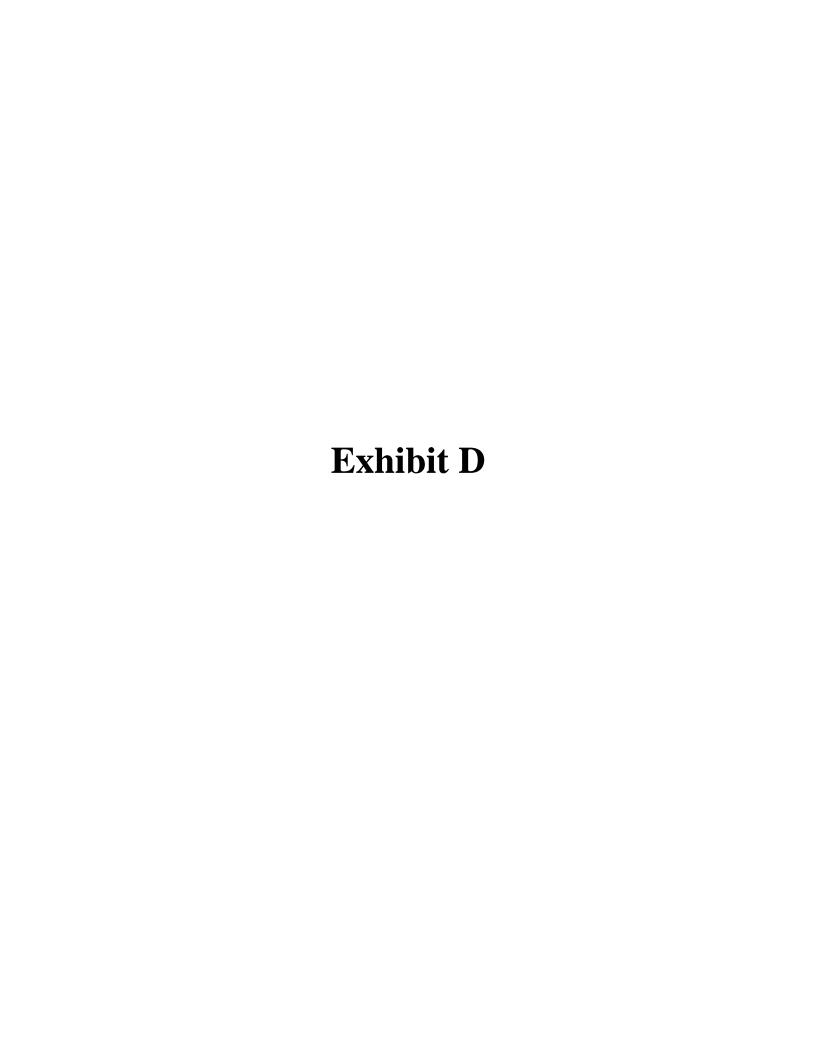
File No. 431

Cal. No. 323

"AN ACT CONCERNING IMMUNIZATIONS."

- 1 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and 2 internal references accordingly:
 - "Sec. 501. (NEW) (Effective from passage) Any person who is exempt from the immunization requirements set forth in section 10-204a of the general statutes, as amended by this act, on religious grounds shall continue to be exempt from such requirements on religious grounds if such student transfers from one public or private school in the state to another public or private school in the state under the jurisdiction of either the same or a different local or regional board of education, or similar body governing a nonpublic school or schools."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following
sections:



Connecticut State

<u>(/DPH)</u>

Department of Public Health

CT.gov Home (/) Department of Public Health (/DPH) School Immunization Survey Data

Immunization Homepage (/DPH/Immunizations/CONNECTICUT-IMMUNIZATIONPROGRAM)	>
Immunization Laws and Regulations (/DPH/Immunizations/ImmunizationLaws-and- Regulations)	>
<u>Vaccine Preventable Disease Surveillance (https://portal.ct.gov/DPH/Immunizations/VACCINE-PREVENTABLE-DISEASES)</u>	>
About CT WIZ (/DPH/Immunizations/ALL-ABOUT-CT-WiZ)	>
EHR Data Exchange-HL7 (https://portal.ct.gov/DPH/Immunizations/Electronic-Health-Record- Electronic-Exchange-With-CT-WiZ)	>
Connecticut Vaccine Program- CVP (/DPH/Immunizations/Connecticut-Vaccine-Program-CVP)	>
For CVP Providers (/DPH/Immunizations/CVPInformation-for-Providers)	>
For Healthcare Providers (/DPH/Immunizations/Immunization-Information-for-Health- Professionals)	>
Immunization Action Plan - IAP (/DPH/Immunizations/Immunization-Action-Plan-IAP)	>
For Adults (/DPH/Immunizations/Adult-Immunizations)	>
For Parents (/DPH/Immunizations/CVPInformation-for-Parents)	>
For Pregnant Women (/DPH/Immunizations/Tdap-Coccooning)	>
International Travel (https://www.cdc.gov/travel/)	>
Preventing Seasonal Influenza (/DPH/Immunizations/Seasonal-Influenza)	>
COVID-19 Vaccine Providers (/DPH/Immunizations/COVID-19-Vaccine-Providers)	>
Contact Us (/DPH/Immunizations/Contact-Us)	>
Search Department of Public Health	•

School Immunization Survey Data

Required Immunizations for School and Child Care Vaccination is a medical intervention with direct benefits to both individuals and communities. When a large percentage of a population is vaccinated, the entire community (vaccinated and unvaccinated) receives additional protection from vaccine preventable diseases. This concept, known as 'herd immunity,' is a primary justification for mandatory vaccination policies in the United States. By following the recommended schedule and fully immunizing children on time, parents protect their children against 14 vaccine preventable diseases. If a high enough percentage of children are vaccinated outbreaks can also be prevented. In the U.S., all states require children attending public school or state-licensed day care facilities to receive a series of vaccinations. Vaccination requirements for school and day care attendance are critical to ensuring high rates of vaccination. Linking vaccination with school attendance, which is also required by law, ensures that vaccines reach the greatest number of children. Schools are a prime venue for the transmission of vaccine-preventable disease, and active school-age children can further spread disease to their families and others with whom they interact. 1 Specific vaccine requirements for school and child care vary by state. The Connecticut immunization laws and regulations can be found on the **<u>Department of Public Health's Immunization Laws and</u>** Regulations web page (https://portal.ct.gov/DPH/Immunizations/Immunization--Laws-and-**Regulations**). Each school and child care program is responsible for ensuring that attendees are in compliance with the vaccine requirements.

Immunization Survey

The school immunization survey measures the extent to which children in Connecticut are protected from vaccine-preventable diseases. Each year the Department of Public Health distributes an immunization survey to all Connecticut schools and licensed group day care homes and child care centers. On the survey, the total number of attendees who completed the required vaccine series, the number who failed to complete the required vaccine series, and the number of children with a religious or medical exemption are reported. This information is reported for all child care attendees on the child care survey and for all kindergarten and seventh grade students on the school survey. In addition, influenza vaccine receipt is surveyed for all preschool² attendees. Individual vaccine information on each child is not collected; only total numbers are collected from each school and child care facility.

Typically survey results for the current school year will not be available until the summer or fall of the next school year.

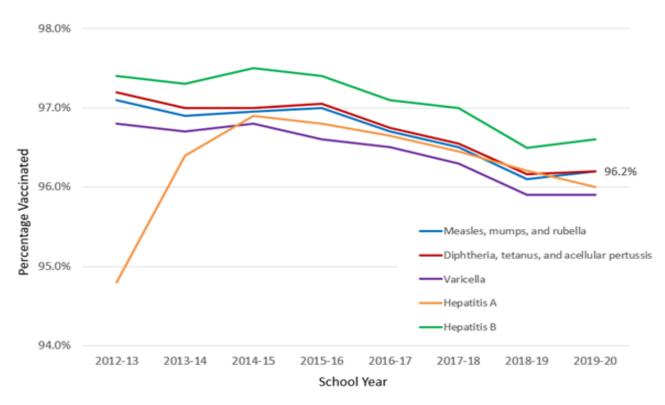
Statewide Data Summary of Religious and Medical Exemptions, 1999–2020

Highlights for 2019-2020

The percentage of Connecticut kindergarten students receiving all required measles mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccines in the 2019-2020 school year was 96.2%. This is a slight increase of 0.1 percentage points from the previous year and a drop of 0.9 percentage points since 2012–2013. For public schools the

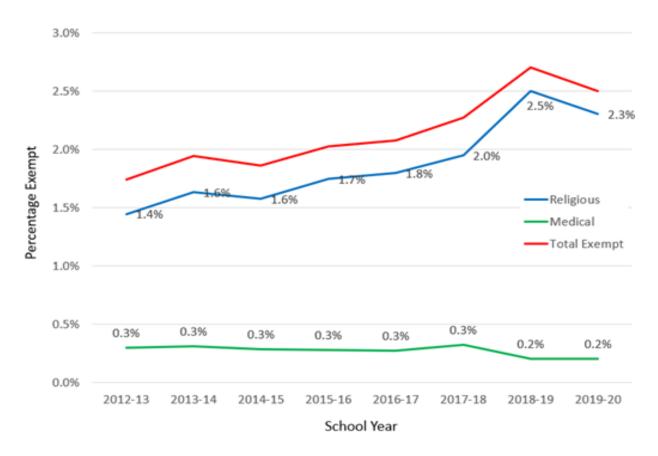
average MMR rate is 96.5% and for private schools the average is 92.1%. Of the schools with more than 30 kindergarten students, 120 schools have MMR rates below 95%, and 26 schools have MMR rates below 90%.

Percentage of Vaccinated Kindergartners, Connecticut, 2012 – 2020



The percentage of kindergarten students with a religious exemption decreased by 0.2% compared with last year, and is now 2.3%. The national average during 2019-20 for non-medical exemptions is 2.2%³. The percentage of kindergarten students with a religious exemption has increased 0.9% since 2012-2013. The percentage of kindergarten students with a medical exemption remains fairly constant, at 0.2% in 2019-2020, compared with 0.3% during previous years.

Kindergarten Exemptions, Connecticut, 2012–2020



Statewide Summary Statistics includes summary immunization information for kindergarten, seventh grade, and influenza vaccine for preschool.

- 2019-2020
- 2018-2019
- 2017-2018
- 2016-2017
- <u>2015-2016</u>
- 2014-2015
- <u>2013-2014</u>
- 2012-2013

County Summary Statistics includes county summary immunization information for kindergarten, seventh grade, and influenza vaccine for preschool.

- <u>2019-2020</u>
- 2018-2019
- · 2017-2018
- 2016-2017
- 2015-2016

- <u>2014-2015</u>
- <u>2013-2014</u>
- <u>2012-2013</u>

School Immunization Data includes immunization information data for each reporting school. You can look up your individual school to see immunization rates, exemption rates, and other related information.

Please note the data limitations listed in the definitions tab in each of the following documents.

- Kindergarten
 - o 2019-2020
 - o <u>2018-2019</u>
 - o 2017-2018
- Seventh Grade
 - o <u>2019-2020</u>
 - o <u>2018-2019</u>
 - o 2017-2018
- Exemption rates for all students, all grade levels
 - o <u>2019-2020</u>
 - o 2018-2019
 - o 2017-2018
- 1 http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz-managers/guides-pubs/downloads/vacc mandates chptr13.pdf
- 2 Includes preschool programs run by local boards of education; preschool programs located in child care centers are counted on the child care survey.
- 3 Vaccination Coverage with Selected Vaccines and Exemption Rates Among Children in Kindergarten United States, 2019–20 School Year (https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7003a2.htm?

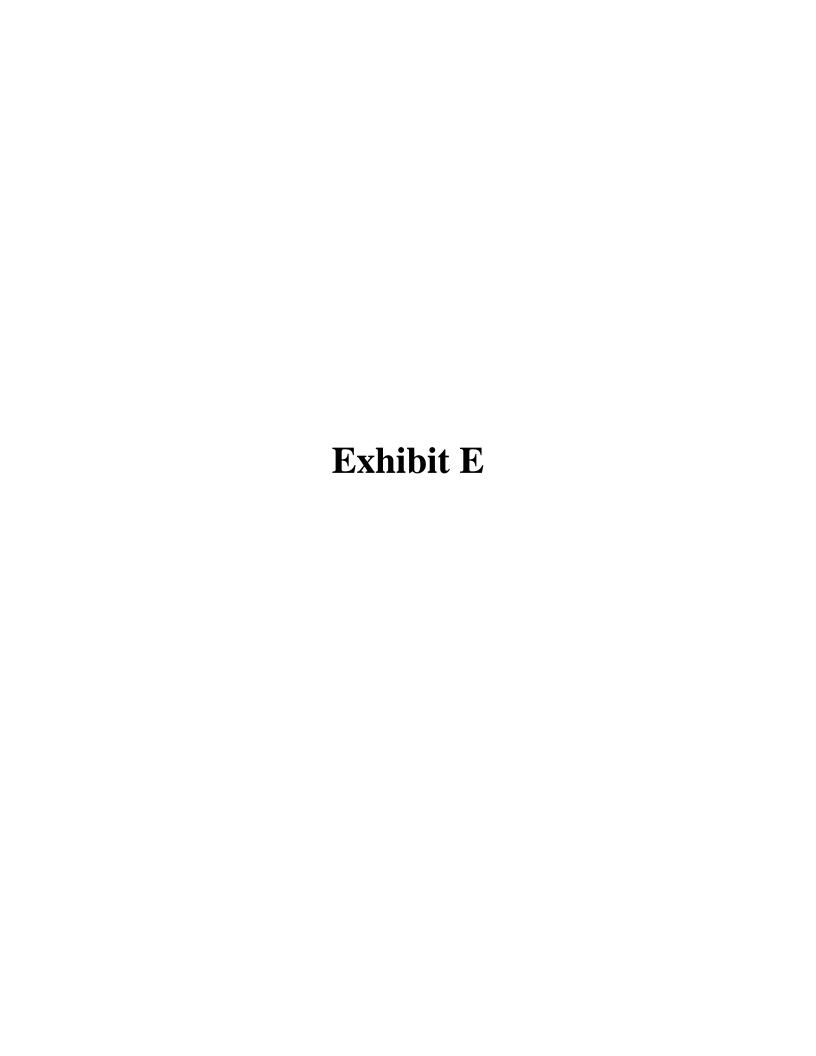
 s cid=mm7003a2 e)

For more information or to contact the Immunization Program, please call:

860-509-7929 (tel:8605097929), during normal business hours, Monday-Friday 8:30am to 4:30pm

Return to Immunization Home Page (/DPH/Immunizations/Electronic-Health-Record-Electronic-
Exchange-With-CT-WiZ)

Return to DPH Home Page (http://www.ct.gov/dph/site/default.asp)



Vaccine Excipient Summary

Excipients Included in U.S. Vaccines, by Vaccine

In addition to weakened or killed disease antigens (viruses or bacteria), vaccines contain very small amounts of other ingredients – excipients.

Some excipients are added to a vaccine for a specific purpose. These include:

Preservatives, to prevent contamination. For example, thimerosal.

Adjuvants, to help stimulate a stronger immune response. For example, aluminum salts.

Stabilizers, to keep the vaccine potent during transportation and storage. For example, sugars or gelatin.

Others are residual trace amounts of materials that were used during the manufacturing process and removed. These can include: **Cell culture materials**, used to grow the vaccine antigens. For example, egg protein, various culture media. **Inactivating ingredients**, used to kill viruses or inactivate toxins. For example, formaldehyde.

Antibiotics, used to prevent contamination by bacteria. For example, neomycin.

The following table lists substances, other than active ingredients (i.e., antigens), shown in the manufacturers' package insert (PI) as being contained in the final formulation of each vaccine. **Note: Substances used in the manufacture of a vaccine but not listed as contained in the final product (e.g., culture media) can be found in each PI, but are not shown on this table.** Each PI, which can be found on the FDA's website (see below) contains a description of that vaccine's manufacturing process, including the amount and purpose of each substance. In most PIs, this information is found in Section 11: "Description."

All information was extracted from manufacturers' package inserts.

The date shown in the Date column of the table is the edition date of the PI is use in February 2020. If a date contains an asterisk (*), the PI was not dated and this is the date the PI was reviewed for this table. If in doubt about whether a PI has been updated since this table was prepared, check the FDA's website at: http://www.fda.gov/BiologicsBloodVaccines/Vaccines/ApprovedProducts/ucm093833.htm
All influenza vaccine in this table are 2019-20 northern hemisphere formulation.

Vaccine	Date	Contains	
Adenovirus	10/2019	monosodium glutamate, sucrose, D-mannose, D-fructose, dextrose, human serum albumin, potassium phosphate, plasdone C, anhydrous lactose, microcrystalline cellulose, polacrilin potassium, magnesium stearate, cellulose acetate phthalate, alcohol, acetone, castor oil, FD&C Yellow #6 aluminum lake dye	
Anthrax (Biothrax)	11/2015	aluminum hydroxide, sodium chloride, benzethonium chloride, formaldehyde	
BCG (Tice)	2/2009	glycerin, asparagine, citric acid, potassium phosphate, magnesium sulfate, iron ammonium citrate, lactose	
Cholera (Vaxchora)	6/2016	ascorbic acid, hydrolyzed casein, sodium chloride, sucrose, dried lactose, sodium bicarbonate, sodium carbonate	
Dengue (Dengvaxia)	6/2019	sodium chloride, essential amino acids (including L-phenylalanine), non-essential amino acids, L-arginine hydrochloride, sucrose, D-trehalose dihydrate, D-sorbitol, trometamol, urea	
DT (Sanofi)	6/2018	aluminum phosphate, isotonic sodium chloride, formaldehyde	
DTaP (Daptacel)	12/2018	aluminum phosphate, formaldehyde, glutaraldehyde, 2-phenoxyethanol	
DTaP (Infanrix)	12/2018	formaldehyde, aluminum hydroxide, sodium chloride, polysorbate 80 (Tween 80)	
DTaP-IPV (Kinrix)	12/2018	Formaldehyde, aluminum hydroxide, sodium chloride, polysorbate 80 (Tween 80), neomycin sulfate, polymyxin B	
DTaP-IPV (Quadracel)	1/2019	formaldehyde, aluminum phosphate, 2-phenoxyethanol, polysorbate 80, glutaraldehyde, neomycin, polymyxin B sulfate, bovine serum albumin	
DTaP-HepB-IPV (Pediarix)	2/2020*	formaldehyde, aluminum hydroxide, aluminum phosphate, sodium chloride, polysorbate 80 (Tween 80), neomycin sulfate, polymyxin B, yeast protein	
DTaP-IPV/Hib (Pentacel)	1/2019	aluminum phosphate, polysorbate 80, sucrose, formaldehyde, glutaraldehyde, bovine serum albumin, 2-phenoxyethanol, neomycin, polymyxin B sulfate	
DTaP-IPV-Hib-HepB (Vaxelis)	12/2018	polysorbate 80, formaldehyde, glutaraldehyde, bovine serum albumin, neomycin, streptomycin sulfate, polymyxin B sulfate, ammonium thiocyanate, yeast protein, aluminum	
Ebola Zaire (ERVEBO)	2/2020*	Tromethamine rice-derived recombinant human serum albumin, host cell DNA benzonase, rice protein	
Hib (ActHIB)	5/2019	sodium chloride, formaldehyde, sucrose	
Hib (Hiberix)	4/2018	formaldehyde, sodium chloride, lactose	

Vaccine	Date	Contains
Hib (PedvaxHIB)	10/2018	amorphous aluminum hydroxyphosphate sulfate, sodium chloride
		MRC-5 cellular proteins, formalin, aluminum hydroxide, amino acid supplement,
Hep A (Havrix)	2/2020*	phosphate-buffered saline solution, polysorbate 20, neomycin sulfate,
		aminoglycoside antibiotic
		amorphous aluminum hydroxyphosphate sulfate, non-viral protein, DNA, bovine
Hep A (Vaqta)	12/2018	albumin, formaldehyde, neomycin, sodium borate, sodium chloride, other process
		chemical residuals
Hep B (Engerix-B)	2/2020*	aluminum hydroxide, yeast protein, sodium chloride, disodium phosphate
Tiep B (Eligeria B)	2,2020	dihydrate, sodium dihydrogen phosphate dihydrate
Hep B (Recombivax)	12/2018	formaldehyde, potassium aluminum sulfate, amorphous aluminum
Tiep B (Recombivax)	12/2016	hydroxyphosphate sulfate, yeast protein
		yeast protein, yeast DNA, deoxycholate, phosphorothioate linked
Hep B (Heplisav-B)	2017	oligodeoxynucleotide, sodium phosphate, dibasic dodecahydrate, sodium chloride,
		monobasic dehydrate, polysorbate 80
		MRC-5 cellular proteins, formalin, aluminum phosphate, aluminum hydroxide,
Hep A/Hep B (Twinrix)	2/2020*	amino acids, sodium chloride, phosphate buffer, polysorbate 20, neomycin sulfate,
		yeast protein, water
Human Papillomavirus	10/2018	amorphous aluminum hydroxyphosphate sulfate, sodium chloride, L-histidine,
(HPV) (Gardasil 9)	10/2018	polysorbate 80, sodium borate, yeast protein
		sodium chloride, monobasic sodium phosphate, dibasic sodium phosphate,
Influenza (Afluria)	12/2019	monobasic potassium phosphate, potassium chloride, calcium chloride, sodium
Quadrivalent	12/2017	taurodeoxycholate, ovalbumin, sucrose, neomycin sulfate, polymyxin B, beta-
		propiolactone, hydrocortisone thimerosal (multi-dose vials)
		squalene, polysorbate 80, sorbitan trioleate, sodium citrate dehydrate, citric acid
Influenza (Fluad)	4/2019	monohydrate, neomycin, kanamycin, barium, hydrocortisone, egg proteins,
		cetyltrimethylammonium bromide (CTAB), formaldehyde
Influenza (Fluarix)	02010	octoxynol-10 (TRITON X-100), α-tocopheryl hydrogen succinate, polysorbate 80
Quadrivalent	©2019	(Tween 80), hydrocortisone, gentamicin sulfate, ovalbumin, formaldehyde, sodium
		deoxycholate, sodium phosphate-buffered isotonic sodium chloride
Influenza (Flublok)	4/2010	sodium chloride, monobasic sodium phosphate, dibasic sodium phosphate,
Quadrivalent	4/2019	polysorbate 20 (Tween 20), baculovirus and <i>Spodoptera frugiperda</i> cell proteins, baculovirus and cellular DNA, Triton X-100
		Madin Darby Canine Kidney (MDCK) cell protein, phosphate buffered saline,
Influenza (Flucelvax)	8/2019	protein other than HA, MDCK cell DNA, polysorbate 80, cetyltrimethlyammonium
Quadrivalent	0/2019	bromide, and β-propiolactone, Thimerosal (multi-dose vials)
Influenza (Flulaval)		ovalbumin, formaldehyde, sodium deoxycholate, α-tocopheryl hydrogen succinate,
Quadrivalent	2/2020*	polysorbate 80, thimerosal (multi-dose vials), phosphate-buffered saline solution
Influenza (Fluzone)		formaldehyde, egg protein, octylphenol ethoxylate (Triton X-100), sodium
Quadrivalent	2019	phosphate-buffered isotonic sodium chloride solution, thimerosal (multi-dose vials)
Influenza (Fluzone)		egg protein, octylphenol ethoxylate (Triton X-100), sodium phosphate-buffered
High Dose	1/2019	isotonic sodium chloride solution, formaldehyde
_		monosodium glutamate, hydrolyzed porcine gelatin, arginine, sucrose, dibasic
Influenza (FluMist)	8/2019	potassium phosphate, monobasic potassium phosphate, ovalbumin, gentamicin
Quadrivalent	0/2017	sulfate, ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA)
Japanese Encephalitis	0/2010	aluminum hydroxide, protamine sulfate, formaldehyde, bovine serum albumin,
(Ixiaro)	9/2018	Vero cell DNA, sodium metabisulphite, Vero cell protein
Meningococcal	1/26/10	sodium phosphate-buffered isotonic sodium chloride solution, formaldehyde,
(MenACWY-Menactra)	4/26/18	diphtheria toxoid
Meningococcal	2/2020*	formaldehyde, CRM ₁₉₇ protein
(MenACWY-Menveo)	2/2020	Tormandenyde, Crivi ₁₉ / protein
Meningococcal	0/00004	
(MenB – Bexsero)	2/2020*	aluminum hydroxide, sodium chloride, histidine, sucrose, kanamycin
Meningococcal	• • • •	
(MenB – Trumenba)	2018	polysorbate 80, aluminum phosphate, histidine buffered saline
,	L	

Vaccine	Date	Contains
		vitamins, amino acids, fetal bovine serum, sucrose, glutamate, recombinant human
MMR (MMR-II)	2/2020*	albumin, neomycin, sorbitol, hydrolyzed gelatin, sodium phosphate, sodium chloride, WI-38 human diploid lung fibroblasts
MMRV (ProQuad)		MRC-5 cells including DNA and protein, sucrose, hydrolyzed gelatin, sodium
(Frozen: Recombinant	2/2020*	chloride, sorbitol, monosodium L-glutamate, sodium phosphate dibasic,
Albumin)		recombinant human albumin, sodium bicarbonate, potassium phosphate monobasic, potassium chloride; potassium phosphate dibasic, neomycin, bovine calf serum
		MRC-5 cells including DNA and protein, sucrose, hydrolyzed gelatin, sodium
MMRV (ProQuad)	2/2020*	chloride, sorbitol, monosodium L-glutamate, sodium phosphate dibasic, human
(Frozen: Human Serum Albumin)	2/2020*	albumin, sodium bicarbonate, potassium phosphate monobasic, potassium chloride;
Albumm)		potassium phosphate dibasic, neomycin, bovine calf serum
10 my (p. 0. 1)		MRC-5 cells including DNA and protein, sucrose, hydrolyzed gelatin, urea, sodium
MMRV (ProQuad)	10/2018	chloride, sorbitol, monosodium L-glutamate, sodium phosphate, recombinant human
(Refrigerator Stable)		albumin, sodium bicarbonate, potassium phosphate, potassium chloride, neomycin, bovine serum albumin
Pneumococcal		
(PCV13 – Prevnar 13)	8/2017	CRM ₁₉₇ carrier protein, polysorbate 80, succinate buffer, aluminum phosphate
Pneumococcal (PPSV-23 – Pneumovax)	2/2020*	isotonic saline solution, phenol
Polio (IPV – Ipol)	2/2020*	calf bovine serum albumin, 2-phenoxyethanol, formaldehyde, neomycin, streptomycin, polymyxin B, M-199 medium
Rabies (Imovax)	10/2019	human albumin, neomycin sulfate, phenol red, beta-propiolactone
		chicken protein, polygeline (processed bovine gelatin), human serum albumin,
Rabies (RabAvert)	©2018	potassium glutamate, sodium EDTA, ovalbumin, neomycin, chlortetracycline,
		amphotericin B
		sucrose, sodium citrate, sodium phosphate monobasic monohydrate, sodium
Rotavirus (RotaTeq)	2/2017	hydroxide, polysorbate 80, cell culture media, fetal bovine serum [DNA from porcine circoviruses (PCV) 1 and 2 has been detected in RotaTeq. PCV-1 and PCV-
		2 are not known to cause disease in humans.]
		dextran, Dulbecco's Modified Eagle Medium (sodium chloride, potassium chloride,
		magnesium sulfate, ferric (III) nitrate, sodium phosphate, sodium pyruvate, D-
Rotavirus (Rotarix)	2/2020*	glucose, concentrated vitamin solution, L-cystine, L-tyrosine, amino acids, L-
Trom (Tromin)	2,2020	glutamine, calcium chloride, sodium hydrogenocarbonate, and phenol red), sorbitol,
		sucrose, calcium carbonate, sterile water, xanthan [Porcine circovirus type 1 (PCV-1) is present in Rotarix. PCV-1 is not known to cause disease in humans.]
G 11 (71 1 1)		•
Smallpox (Vaccinia)	3/2018	HEPES, 2% human serum albumin, 0.5 - 0.7% sodium chloride USP, 5% Mannitol USP, neomycin, polymyxin B, 50% Glycerin USP, 0.25% phenol USP
(ACAM2000)	11/2010	
Td (Tenivac)	11/2019	aluminum phosphate, formaldehyde, sodium chloride, water
Td (TDVAX) Tdap (Adacel)	9/2018 1/2019	aluminum phosphate, formaldehyde, thimerosal aluminum phosphate, formaldehyde, 2-phenoxyethanol, glutaraldehyde, water
Tdap (Adaeci) Tdap (Boostrix)	2/2020*	formaldehyde, aluminum hydroxide, sodium chloride, polysorbate 80
		formaldehyde, phenol, polydimethylsiloxane, disodium phosphate, monosodium
Typhoid (Typhim Vi)	3/2014	phosphate, sodium chloride, sterile water
Typhoid (Vivotif	9/2013	sucrose, ascorbic acid, amino acids, lactose, magnesium stearate. gelatin
Ty21a)	7/2013	
Varianta (Variana)		MRC-5 human diploid cells, including DNA & protein, sucrose, hydrolyzed gelatin,
Varicella (Varivax) Frozen	2/2020*	sodium chloride, monosodium L-glutamate, sodium phosphate dibasic, sodium phosphate monobasic, potassium phosphate monobasic, potassium chloride, EDTA,
rrozen		neomycin, fetal bovine serum
Varicella (Varivov)		MRC-5 human diploid cells, including DNA & protein, sucrose, hydrolyzed gelatin,
Varicella (Varivax) Refrigerator Stable	10/2018	sodium chloride, monosodium L-glutamate, urea, sodium phosphate dibasic,
		potassium phosphate monobasic, potassium chloride, neomycin, bovine calf serum
Yellow Fever (YF-Vax)	2/2019	sorbitol, gelatin, sodium chloride
Zoster (Shingles)	1/2019	MRC-5 human diploid cells, including DNA & protein, sucrose, hydrolyzed porcine gelatin, sodium chloride, monosodium L-glutamate, sodium phosphate dibasic,
(Zostavax) Frozen	1/2019	potassium phosphate monobasic, potassium chloride; neomycin, bovine calf serum
	<u> </u>	potassiam phosphate monocasie, potassiam emoriae, neomyem, oovine can serum

Vaccine	Date	Contains
Zoster (Shingles)		MRC-5 human diploid cells, including DNA & protein, sucrose, hydrolyzed porcine
(Zostavax)	8/2018	gelatin, urea, sodium chloride, monosodium L-glutamate, sodium phosphate dibasic,
Refrigerator Stable		potassium phosphate monobasic, potassium chloride, neomycin, bovine calf serum
Zoster (Shingles) (Shingrix)	2/2020*	sucrose, sodium chloride, dioleoyl phosphatidylcholine (DOPC), 3- <i>O</i> -desacl-4'monophosphoryl lipid A (MPL), QS-21 (a saponin purified from plant extract <i>Quillaja saponaria</i> Molina), potassium dihydrogen phosphate, cholesterol, sodium
		dihydrogen phosphate dihydrate, disodium phosphate anhydrous, dipotassium phosphate, polysorbate 80, host cell protein and DNA

A table listing vaccine excipients and media *by excipient* is published by the Institute for Vaccine Safety at Johns Hopkins University, and can be found at http://www.vaccinesafety.edu/components-Excipients.htm.

February 2020